

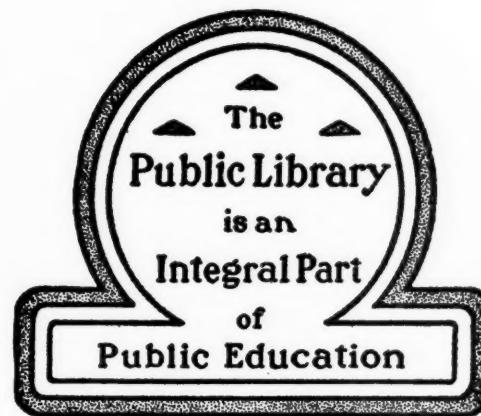
Vol. 15

October, 1910

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No. 8

Public Libraries



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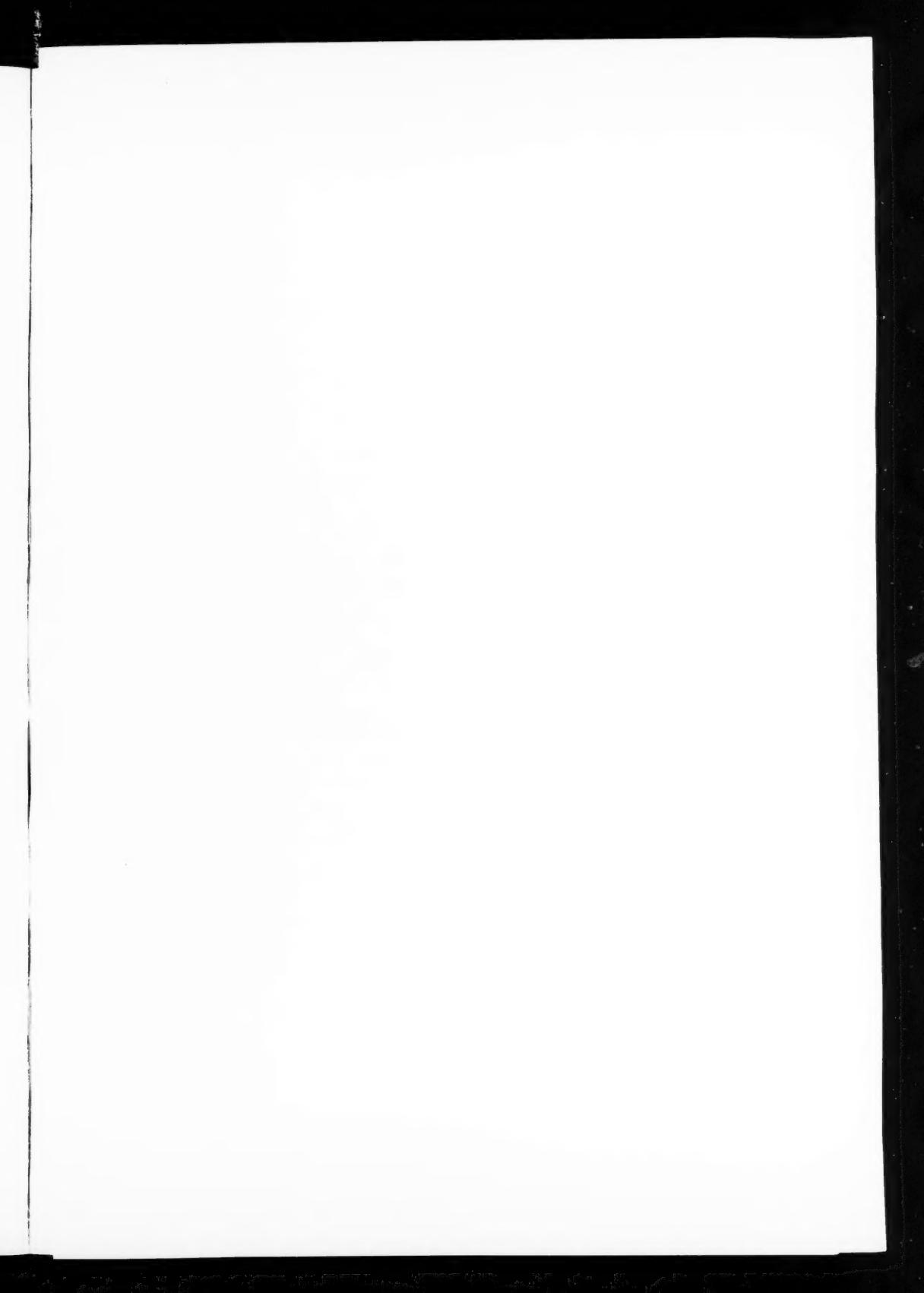
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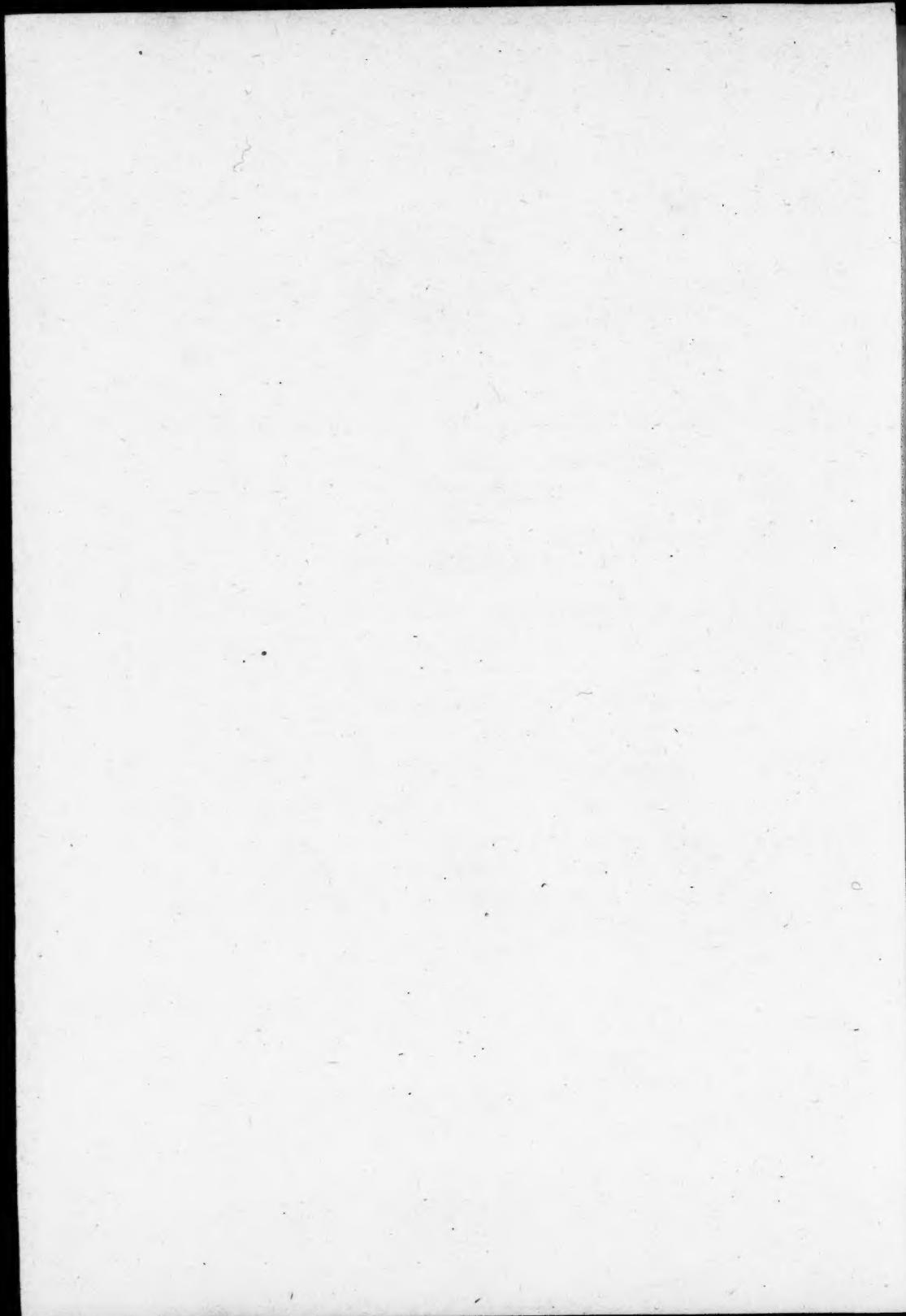
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Public Libraries

A monthly publication devoted to the advancement of library work

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Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

Vol. 15

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The Deterioration of Paper Used for Newspapers*

Dr Frank P. Hill, Librarian, Brooklyn public library

At the 1909 conference of librarians held at Bretton Woods, Mr Chivers presented an exhaustive and valuable paper on the durability of books for library purposes. The paper aroused considerable discussion among librarians, both here and in England.

The *Library World* for February, 1910, contained the following:

"The cost of running municipal and commercial circulating libraries is increasing every year, owing to the sums which have to be spent on recasing, re-binding, and replacing bad books, and we venture to state that there is not a public library in the country which has not got hundreds, and, in some cases, even thousands of books out of action simply because of their wretched manufacture. Before the introduction of that horrible feather-weight paper, an ordinary 3s 6d novel would last through 30 or 40 readings before it was necessary to send it to the binder, and then when re-bound would last the life of the book. An ordinary 6s novel nowadays, printed on feather-weight paper, will hardly survive six to 10 readings, and then the chances are that many of the leaves will be found to have broken away from the sections.

"This is not as it should be, and nothing, in our opinion, has a more demoralizing effect upon the public taste in books than novels, or other works, produced in such an obviously cheap and inferior manner.

*Abstract of paper read at Mackinac Island meeting of A. L. A.

"This process of degrading the book has been going on for years now, and it is time some action was taken, by all kinds of librarians, to stamp out what is really a national evil. As a method of doing this we suggest a combination of commercial, municipal, and other librarians pledged not to stock any books printed on feather-weight paper."

If book-paper is bad, newspaper is worse.

At the March (1910) meeting of the trustees of the Brooklyn public library the librarian reported as follows:

"The attention of the librarian was recently called to the necessity of rebinding some of the Brooklyn and Manhattan papers. Upon investigation it was found that the paper used for printed newspapers for the past 30 years had been made from woodpulp. As is well-known, this is of a much inferior quality to the paper made from rags, and as shown from our own files, the life of a periodical printed on woodpulp is not likely to be more than 50 years. This is a serious matter and demands the attention of publishers and librarians throughout the country. It means that the material for history contained in the newspapers will not be available after the period mentioned, and that all such historical record will disappear unless provision is made for reprinting or for preserving the volumes as they exist at present. The historian depends to such an extent upon newspapers that it will mean a serious loss if some preservative process cannot be found.

"We can very well bear the loss of many books printed upon woodpulp paper, but the loss of newspapers contain-

ing the news of the day would be one which would be felt for all time. It would seem possible that some means might be provided whereby a better paper would be used. The chairman of the administration committee has been in correspondence with the editor of one of the New York newspapers in relation to this important matter, while another trustee, himself a publisher, interested in securing a good paper, is making a separate study of the subject. The subject is presented at this time for the purpose of interesting other trustees and with the view to calling the attention of the publishers and librarians to the necessity for a better quality of paper for such files of newspapers as are to be preserved."

A circular was sent to some of the prominent newspaper publishers asking 1) result of their experience, 2) whether a better grade of paper was being used for running off extra copies for their own files, 3) what, if any, means were being taken to preserve the files in their own offices.

It was hoped as a result of the circular that definite means of improvement would be suggested. From the responses received it is evident that there is a desire on the part of publishers to meet the requirements of librarians and others on this subject, and it is likely that a conference of publishers and librarians will be held in the near future to consider the feasibility of printing some copies on better paper.

Inquiries were also sent to various manufacturers of paper with no better result. No encouragement was received from this source except that one manufacturer thought that some newspaper publisher was using a better grade, and another that he had just the paper that ought to be used. It was stated that two New York publishers used a better grade of paper for a few additional copies, but returns received from those papers indicate that no difference is made at the present time. We have not found any paper that strikes off extra copies on better grade paper.

There appear to be two strong objec-

tions* to striking off extra copies for filing purposes from a better grade of paper. 1) That the better grades of paper are not made to fit the large rolls used in printing presses. 2) That if such paper were made the cost of the paper, in the first place, the expense of changing rolls and the limited number of subscribers who would purchase such an edition would hardly pay.

Most any library subscribing to papers for binding could well afford to pay \$100 extra per year if sure of securing a lasting impression.

There remains, then, the question of preservative.

Two methods are possible for preserving the valuable material stored in newspapers printed on the cheap grade paper: 1) by reprinting, 2) by chemical process.

The first is eliminated because of the expense, which would be greater than to strike off extra copies on better paper at time of going to press.

Until recently no preservative had been found, but the good news comes from Germany that a chemical mixture has been found by the use of which wood-pulp paper may be indefinitely preserved. In view of the fact that Germany first made and used woodpulp it is quite proper that the same country should give us the formula for its preservation.

Prof. Herzberg, head of the Government paper testing institute of Berlin, reports that experiments recently initiated by the institute have resulted in producing a liquid mixture by the use of which woodpulp paper may be indefinitely preserved.

"Our method is to dip the sheets, one by one, into a cellit solution, and then hang them up to dry. If their condition

*Prof. Justin Winsor, foreseeing that in course of time the issues printed on the ordinary newspaper of today must end in dust, 20 or 30 years ago tried to induce the publishers of the leading newspapers of Boston to have a few copies of each issue printed on paper of extra good and durable quality, for the files of the Boston public library, with which he was connected. But his efforts were in vain, because, as the proprietors of the journals put it, it was "too much fuss."

makes it impossible to hang them up, they may be dried by being spread on large meshed nets. This treatment binds the sheets, does not damage the paper body, and makes it possible to preserve newspapers for a long time.

"The solution used in the experiment was prepared in the institute. It can be purchased from the technical department of the Friedrich Bayer & Co. color factories of Elberfeld, Germany. I should suggest the importation of several quarts of this mixture for experimental purposes.

"The success of this treatment is very surprising. Sheets which before were rotting and about to fall to pieces can be handled readily, and acquire a parchment-like firmness. If, after an interval of several decades, it should be found necessary to repeat immersion in the solution, this will not damage the paper, and it would seem that in this way published matter might be preserved for centuries."

Recreation for Librarians

At the A. L. A. meeting at Mackinac Island, Librarian Ranck of Grand Rapids, Mich., conducted a symposium on the subject of recreations for librarians, and he said, in part:

Whether librarians need recreation more than others, or whether their work is harder than that of others I do not propose to discuss. I merely say it is a fact, which might well be regarded as a scandal, that too many librarians, many of them not yet of the age of two score and ten, have been breaking down—forced to retire from the work. Recalling those who have failed, in the last five or six years to stand up under the burden of the work, I find it is not difficult to make a list of about 50 names. And there are many others, I am sure. Some of these have died before their time, others have been obliged to retire from library work permanently, and others temporarily, either on extended leaves of absence or to the friendly sanitarium. Whether this condition of affairs is worse among libra-

rians than among other professional people I do not know, but when every year a considerable number of our fellow-workers are breaking down it is time for us to give the matter some consideration.

I believe that one's attitude of mind toward his work is a most important element in whether he finds it easy or hard; in other words, joy in the work lessens the burden of it. This brings into our exercises for recreation the element of purpose. For example, a walk with a dinner at the other end is better as exercise—recreation—than the walk to no purpose. The latter is like fanning the air.

During the last 20 years I have worked on an average of from 60 to 75 hours a week (not all at library work at any time), and it has been the exception to find the work I was doing a burden. In almost all of it I have had in doing it (to quote T. R.), "a corking good time." Of course, I have been exceptionally fortunate in being to a large extent master of my own time; that is, when I did not feel like doing one thing I could nearly always turn to something else, without following a prearranged or fixed schedule. This, of course, I know is impossible for everyone in the routine of a large institution, but I believe that it helps immensely in the ease with which a given quantity of work may be accomplished. Freedom in this direction helps enormously to keep oneself fit.

I believe that the beginning of the disorganization of the nervous system among librarians is frequently due to eye-strain. I have seen many examples of this where nervous indigestion, leading up to nervous prostration, and all the ills that follow, began with eye-strain. Library work and library lighting can easily make all of us victims of eye-strain; and I may add that the lighting in many of our libraries is vicious.

Life is ever unfolding from within, and revealing itself to the light, and thoughts engendered in the heart at last reveal themselves in things accomplished.—James Allen.

International Institute of Bibliography

The International Institute of Bibliography at Brussels dates its origin from the first International conference of bibliography, held in Brussels in 1895. Its historical background was the extraordinary development of bibliographical work and the strong assertion of bibliographical needs during the latter half of the past century. Its purpose originally was, and still remains, "the betterment, development, and unification of methods," in the professional treatment of books and documents, "the organization of scientific international coöperation of all kinds of special interests of international character, to the end of recording, following a uniform plan, all works involved in general documentation;—to establish an international center for the coöordination of the work involved herein," . . . to act as a federative organ, through which international bibliography could be developed and finally expressed.

Primary among the means through which this institute was to find expression, stood the establishment of a universal catalog of the entire literary production of the world,—a "bibliographia universalis." Of equal importance was the establishment of national institutes, affiliated with the main one, and the development and adjustment of the Decimal Classification.

The program, originally outlined by Senator Henri La Fontaine, in his essay, "A world-recollection," aims at the very highest ideals in bibliography; indeed, if enthusiasm and high hope would ever insure success to an undertaking, M La Fontaine possesses these in the highest degree. The urgent need of bibliographical records in many fields, until then sadly neglected in this respect, very properly was recognized by the Belgian government, through whose grant of

subsistence the greater part of the revenues is derived.

Work on the universal catalog began immediately and has been continued diligently ever since. In 1896, when a secretariat for Austria had been founded, the International Institute entered into an agreement with the Concilium Bibliographicum, then newly established in Zurich, for the publication of a current bibliography of zoölogy, physiology and geology. While the Concilium devoted its energies to the biological sciences, geology fell to the share of the Belgian Geological Service. These bibliographies have been very well received throughout the world, and are diligently used.

From the beginning, however, German bibliographical interests stood aloof, because the librarians of that country took a stand decidedly unfavorable to the Decimal Classification. Nor have they altered this position since, and the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, the main organ of German library interests, still uniformly ignores the affairs and the publications of the International Institutes.

In 1899, support from France was given to the cause by the establishment of the Bureau bibliographique, in Paris. Likewise, Mexico joined in with an Instituto bibliographico Mexicano, and Dr E. Doumer announced his bibliography of electrobiology.

In 1903, an important step was taken in the issuing of bibliographies of current publications in economics and the technical arts. Neither these nor the other publications have succeeded, however, in attaining a truly international scope or even that international support which must form the solid basis of all such undertakings. Indeed, the field of operation is so gigantic, the material to be recorded so diffusely scattered, that the Institute, in spite of the untiring efforts of its officers, have been able to reach but a fraction of the interests they aim to serve.

From the United States, coöperation has been held out since the beginning. Most of our large libraries, notably the Library of Congress, have responded to the suggestions of the Institute. The latter, on its part, has rendered valuable service to our interests by the development of the Decimal Classification to a point where the very remotest interests are recognized. The Brussels classification schedules, introducing numerous devices of their own for minute subdivisions of subjects in special collections, constitute an accomplishment worthy of commendation even though their actual use in libraries may involve complications that render their use impossible. At any rate, the relative position of subjects can be determined with great precision by the use of these schedules, and they involve an amount of work that, if alone representing the efforts of the Institute, would constitute a valid reason for its existence.

At Brussels, the accumulation of the world-catalog has been steadily pursued. The classified catalog at present numbers eight million slips, and is arranged in three parallel series, one by authors, one by a classified order of subjects, and one by order of dates.

Before this huge accumulation the thoughtful librarian cannot help asking to what extent the world makes an adequate use of the efforts expended. Until now, as far as we are aware, no one has published a critical estimate of the value of the catalog nor of any part thereof. It would seem that a catalog of such magnitude afforded a reply to numerous questions arising daily in any library where large masses of literature are handled. If a full utilization is not made, let us examine how it may be attained. No doubt these problems have arisen before, and have been definitely answered by the International library conference that was held in Brussels this summer, attended by a strong delegation of our own librarians.

One feature of the activities of the International Institute deserves special mention: the so-called *Répertoire Iconographique Universel*. This collection was formed—it began in 1905—with a view to collect entries for photographic illustrations on all subjects in every field of human activity. It is intended as an aid to scientific and technical research, and would also serve for historical investigations of activities within definite epochs. The principal fields covered are those of the fine arts (paintings, sculpture), ethnography and voyages (places of interest, landscapes, scenery, natural objects, types of population, costumes, etc.), history and bibliography (portraits, historic scenes and features of books and their making), natural history, industries (products, machinery).

The value of such a catalog, for reference purposes is obvious, and if any portion of the accumulated material at the Institute deserves to be duplicated for use elsewhere, this one cannot be overlooked.

On the whole, then, anyone that has followed the activities of the Brussels institute since its inception cannot but feel that much has been accomplished; that the enthusiasm was not in vain. The question is natural, however, whether we, whether the bibliographical interests here and elsewhere really avail themselves of the vast amount of recording and registration thus carried on from year to year. If not, may not the time be ripe for a movement, a strong effort toward a loyal support, an extended utilization?

Hurry always pays the highest price for everything, and, usually the goods are not delivered. In the race for wealth men often sacrifice time, energy, health, home, happiness and honor—everything that money cannot buy, the very things that money can never bring back. Hurry is a phantom of paradoxes.—Success.

A Visit to "Portway," Bath, England

Bookbinding as an art is so great a pleasure in itself that when one sees it practiced as it is in the picturesque surrounding of Portway, it seems like a page from the golden days of labor as they are pictured in poetry and song. Bath, itself, is such a veritable bit of romantic history that one has the impression of being under the spell of long ago in passing through its doors. Queen Elizabeth, Chesterfield, Nelson, Andre, Wolf, Dr Johnson, Mrs Thrale, Herschel, Sheridan, Miss Lindly, Beau Nash, Landor and a score of others contribute to the pageant that memory brings to mind as one learns of Bath. Prehistoric times as well as Roman days contribute to the feelings of the stranger that here indeed is the scene of a life of a different age from that in which he lives.

With such preparation as that when one goes to Portway, where the book is made beautiful amid a perfect bower of green walled in, in true English fashion, surrounded by green fields, that not only lend the beauty of their loveliness, but seem to hold at bay the less beautiful aspects of passing events and giving an exclusive quiet to the quaint and interesting old manor house used as the bindery, it is hard to connect the usual thought of labor with the work that was seen there. Pure air and plenty of light everywhere, an intelligent, well-appearing bevy of workers content and interested in what they were doing, attractive surroundings and comfortable quarters presented a scene where one could surely realize the saying of William Morris that art is man's joy in his labor.

The trio of visitors from the western side of the Atlantic Ocean were shown throughout the establishment, various processes were explained, material for work exhibited, plans of future development outlined until the entire morning was consumed without the least feeling of fatigue on

the visitors' side, but with increasing admiration not only for the product of all the activity so plainly manifest, but for the spirit in which it was all done. No touch of the commonplace or commercialism was apparent at any time as room after room was visited, only that same "joy in his labor," which the master workman displayed, seemed to be the sole animating spirit back of it all. Freely and frankly he spoke of the work that was being done, with just the word that showed his visitors why the product of Portway stands in a class by itself.

Most of the workers seen on the occasion of the visit were girls and young women, as most of the young men were off on a sort of a holiday at the military maneuvers which were going on in national camps at the time.

The force is a picked one, of superior qualifications whose work is worth the price it receives. That was plainly apparent. The stockroom was freely displayed, and the qualities of the different materials explained as they were shown. The artists who produce the exquisite designs for which Portway is famous were equally as kind in showing their drawings, their colorings and the plan of procedure of their work.

Tea rooms where tea is served every day were attractive. The workers live usually within three-fourths of a mile of Portway and are encouraged to go home to luncheon for the exercise in the open air. In answer to the bold question, "Does it pay?" The answer came back at once, "Undoubtedly, from every standpoint."

A bit of personal hospitality at the close of the visit gave each visitor a chance to utter the sincere admiration which the visit engendered, and to express the wish that prosperity might forever abide within the walls of Portway and that the influence of the work seen, might grow in strength as it grows in beauty.

California County Library Law

It would be a great misfortune to the cause of education in this country if the attack of Helen E. Haines on the California county-library law, which appeared in the July number of *PUBLIC LIBRARIES*, remained unanswered. That law is one of the most important pieces of library legislation in the whole history of the movement. To dub it "radical" must not be allowed to conceal its merits in the eyes of people in other states. For its underlying principles are destined to spread to every part of the country. They embody the next important step in the library development of the United States.

These underlying principles are: Equal rights for all, and efficiency. The former is a demand of justice, the latter of common prudence and economy.

It is nothing more than ordinary justice, a "square deal," that the state should enable the population outside of incorporated cities to have as nearly as is physically possible the same educational facilities as the town folk. As far as the schools are concerned, California tries to supply this demand by the system of county high schools, superimposed on the district schools. It is the intent of the county-library law to take care of the other branch of the educational tree. This cannot be done by "extending library facilities to all the inhabitants of the state" by the "contract clause." The farmers of California do not care to play the part of poor relations to the city people. They are a remarkably independent class, on the average rather more intelligent than the mass of the town population, whose minds are formed largely by the yellow newspapers and the vaudeville shows. The "contract clause," by which the farmers may pay for the privilege of getting books from the city library, but have no voice in the management of the institution, is a good enough makeshift until something better can be put in its place. But the aim must be to give them their own library, belonging to all the people of the county, with a librarian re-

sponsible to all the users of the library, not to a privileged part of them. The contract system, as a permanent thing, is undemocratic, foreign to the spirit of American institutions, and will not be tolerated in California.

It is also inefficient. The second aim of the county-library act is to introduce greater efficiency into library administration.

Everybody knows that the independent library in the smaller cities is run wastefully—wastefully to such an extent that only the small importance which the citizens attach to it saves it from the wrath of the voters and taxpayers. The books are so few that in a short time every reader in town has read every book in the institution. There are few funds to buy new ones and when a few dollars can be raised for that purpose, neither the kind and underpaid old lady who acts as librarian nor the well-meaning clergyman or busy attorney who runs the board of trustees knows what to buy or how to buy. A delightful situation for the book agent! Everybody with a slight knowledge of library conditions, in California or elsewhere, knows these things to be true. There are counties, like Alameda and Sacramento and several others, with large, splendidly managed city libraries, where, thanks to able librarians and broad-minded trustees, the contract system is working satisfactorily. But does anybody pretend that there are not far more counties in which the "extension of facilities" from the city library to the county inhabitants would be worse than a farce? And, then, there are not a few counties where no city library exists, but a county library could very well be organized. Are these to go without books altogether, or be satisfied with traveling libraries?

Who is interested in maintaining these wasteful, inefficient institutions? Certainly not the people of the small towns. They would be vastly benefited, in common with all the people of the county, by getting a fairly large, well and economically managed county library. The only parties interested in keeping the old sys-

tem alive are the librarians and trustees of these pitiful institutions. Nobody dreams of abolishing existing libraries that are fairly able to render adequate service, nor will such be absorbed by the county libraries. But the library interests of the people must not be sacrificed to the self-interest of local librarians or the vanity and self importance of trustees.

One of the most beneficial provisions of the law is that which makes the librarian directly responsible for the management of the county library without the interposition of an air-cushion in the form of a board of trustees. It is in conformity with the whole trend of the modern movement toward administrative reform. There is no more reason why there should be a board of trustees to supervise, hamper, or bulldoze a librarian who knows his business than there is for such a board in the case of the treasurer, auditor and engineer. It is proof of an utter misunderstanding of the act to say that the "chief library authority is lodged with the county supervisors." It is lodged with the librarian. There are very careful provisions, making the county librarian infinitely more independent of the supervisors than the ordinary librarian is of the trustees. The outcry against the danger of "politics" will make everybody smile who gets his information at first hand, instead of from newspapers and "uplift" magazines. As if there were no politics in the average board of trustees! If it is not party politics it is something far worse: church, lodge, family or business politics. The county-library act requires the librarian to have a certificate of competency from officials over whom the supervisors can exercise absolutely no control; once appointed, he is subject to the supervisors in nothing, except as regards the auditing of his finances. As the supervisors must supply the funds, it will certainly tend toward more liberal support of the libraries if they are personally interested in the management, while a board of trustees has to beg for the grant of library funds from indifferent supervisors.

The present law has certain defects

which can easily be remedied. No comprehensive law was ever passed without faults becoming apparent by practical experience. Many of them could, perhaps, have been avoided if those trustees and librarians who oppose the execution of the law had lent their counsel while the bill was pending before the legislature. But not one saw fit to raise his or her voice.

It is not probable that the county-library law will be repealed, nor that the country residents will be satisfied in the long run with the contract makeshift. And it is highly desirable that California should progress much farther in the direction of a goal toward which this act is but the first step. That goal is a just, efficient and liberal library service for the whole people, whether in town or country, a service that is utterly independent of politics, selfish interests, or indolent prejudices.

ERNEST BRUNCKEN.

Why?

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

A certain library trustee, who knows something of libraries and books, saw a newspaper note to the effect that a certain large western library had excluded from its shelves certain modern books as unsuitable.

The trustee was moved to write the following, which seems such excellent advice that I hope you will print it.

P. R.

"Did you ever hear of the woman who was advised by a bookseller not to buy a book for her daughter as it was not fit to read? She said she would take it and see that her daughter did not read it!

Why does Miss —— of —— advertise or help Wells, Eleanor Glynn and other truck writers if she doesn't approve of them? Doesn't she know that every girl reading this clipping will rush to the nearest place and secure one or more of these books?

In Italy a man commits a murder, the law forbids capital punishment, so he is tried quietly and, if convicted, he disappears and no one sees him until his body

is handed over to a prison official for burial, and this, perhaps, 15 or 30 years later. No specialists are allowed to examine him and pronounce him insane for \$500 to \$5000 an opinion. And no excitement. So with the book. Why does Miss _____ do this thing this way?

Why not collect them, burn them and quietly give orders not to purchase any more books of those authors?—Why?

Bulletin Wanted

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

This library is in receipt of a request from the Public library at Adelaide, South Australia, for a copy of *Bulletin Number 13* (1906) of the Engineering experiment station of the University of Illinois, containing the article by N. C. Ricker on the "Extension of the Dewey decimal system of classification applied to architecture and building." We have no copy among our duplicates available for forwarding to the Adelaide library. I send this note to PUBLIC LIBRARIES thinking that if published in that paper it may meet the eye of some librarian whose duplicate stock contains a copy of this Bulletin, and who would be willing to send it to Adelaide as an exchange, gift, or sale.

H. M. LYDENBERG,
Reference librarian.

New York public library.

Criticism on a Reference Work

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Permit me to call your attention to the enclosed sheet containing two excerpts from Appleton's new practical encyclopedia containing entertaining information on the subject of education in Georgia. The bracketed corrections may serve those who have purchased the work and those who have not. (We are numbered among the latter.)

DUNCAN BURNET, librarian.
University of Georgia, Athens.

Georgia—The leading educational institutions are the University of Georgia, at Athens, with a branch called the State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, at Auburn [Alabama! Should be Athens, Ga.] . . . There

are seven normal schools [two in fact], a State Institution for the Blind at Cave Spring [should be deaf-mute]. . . .

Georgia, University of, coeducational [Wrong; no collegiate instruction given women, regrettably] . . . at Athens . . . comprising, besides a college of liberal arts (Franklin college) [State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts omitted] . . . a School of Law [at Athens. Place not stated] and State agricultural colleges in Dahlonega [North Georgia Industrial College, not a state college of agriculture as now understood], Thomasville, Milledgeville and Hamilton [None at the latter three places] and a Normal and Industrial College for Women [at Milledgeville. Place not stated].

Omitted from the above the following branches of the university system: State normal school at Athens, Georgia State industrial college for colored youths at Savannah, and 11 state supported district agricultural high schools, established in 1906.

A Genealogical Reference

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

There are many libraries possessing the publications of the United States census department which have not a large supply of genealogical literature.

It will be useful to them to know that in the volume of the census of 1900 entitled "A century of population growth" there is a table covering 43 pages giving all the surnames represented by at least 100 white persons in the original 13 states in 1790.

This is particularly interesting since it shows a great variety of the spelling of surnames of that period.

WILLIAM BEER,

Librarian, Howard memorial library,
New Orleans.

Let us believe in the great mass of the people—not because they are intellectually clever, not because they are independent thinkers, but because in the long run the safest and sanest safeguards of national character are to be found not in the subtle jugglery of the mental attitude of the few, but in the sound, sane feeling laid down in the fundamental character of the great mass of the nation.
—Dr. George E. Vincent.

Public Libraries

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The A. L. A. meeting for 1911—While the echoes of the 1910 meeting have not died away, some of the preparations for the meeting for 1911 are well under way. The executive board has decided that the meeting shall be held in southern California at a resort accessible and commodious, where the rates offered shall be an inducement. This means that an opportunity will be given on the way to the meeting or at its close to take a pre-conference trip or a post-conference trip of some importance. It has been suggested that Mexico City would offer an attraction, while others, stirred by the glowing accounts of the Alaskan trip of 1905, wish to enjoy the pleasure which they did not have that year. It may be just as well to view some of the wonders of the West within the borders of our own land, but in any case it may be safely left to the judgment of those in charge to do the best thing for all concerned.

Another point pretty well settled, at least by precedent, is the election of a woman for president of A. L. A. for the able to attend may console themselves

next year, the first vice-presidency for the first time having been filled by the election of Mrs Elmendorf of Buffalo. This is a matter of considerable pleasure to a large number of the association, and unless something of which there is now no knowledge, occurs, the A. L. A. will make for itself a new and a creditable record in the selection of its chief officer. In the meantime, the entire West may look forward with pleasure to a profitable occasion in the next meeting of the A. L. A. on the Pacific coast.

Library meetings of the summer—The opening for the winter's work in library service may be said to have been fairly accomplished, usually, in October. Vacations are over, schools and study groups have begun their work, adjustments in the administration have been made, state library meetings are offering every opportunity for clarifying difficult problems and the leisure time of the summer months has allowed the solution of questions more or less perplexing. The present time is no exception to the usual order of things.

The meeting at Mackinac gave a creditable contribution to the history of such meetings, not only in the general record, but in the individual experience of all those who attended. The library department of N. E. A. did not suffer annihilation, as was threatened a year ago, but from general reports formed an occasion of interest to those who were fortunate enough to be present.

The meeting at Brussels was, perhaps, on the whole, less satisfactory than the enthusiastic imagination of many librarians led them to expect. This fact is not without its fortunate aspects, since those who were disappointed in not being

now in the thought of what they did not miss.

The meeting at Brussels, viewed in an afterlight, would seem to have been not the result of concerted action by various library powers in different countries, but rather an occasion provided by the Belgian libraries in connection with the Brussels exposition by which, one is justified by the proceedings in saying, they hoped to better their own library condition and perhaps to secure for themselves prestige in forming a permanent international library association.

The American library association in the Brussels conference was a very negligible quantity. The delegates, personally, received the most courteous attention, but as delegates from the oldest library association and from a country which, without boasting, may be proud of the progress which libraries have made within a comparatively short time within its borders, both in accumulating material and in effectiveness of service, there was reason to expect more consideration than was accorded.

Undoubtedly some good, perhaps considerable, will come from the Brussels meeting, but in the light of the experience of many of those present, one is inclined to look to the future for developments.

A British library meeting—A recent experience of a number of American librarians in attending the conference of British librarians gave additional ground for the growth of a personal and professional regard between the English-speaking library workers. The meeting at Exeter was a delightful occasion in every way. The association is not too large as yet for the individual interests to receive attention in the general meetings. All classes of libraries are represented by

the chief librarians and the members of the library boards and every phase of library development is of interest.

The director of the great British museum presided with dignity and effectiveness and it cannot but result in renewed interest and aspiration on the part of every one who witnessed his conduct of affairs. That a man of such prominence and ability found it within his circle of interest and effort to give the courteous attention and assistance to the problems of the ordinary library in the manner in which Dr Kenyon conducted the meeting at Exeter was not the least pleasure of the meeting.

The American visitors were interested to see what effect the absence of library assistants had on the conduct of affairs of a national library meeting. While, for the most part, the conduct of library affairs was treated from the viewpoint of the chief librarian and the board of directors, the discussions occasionally ran into questions of detail on which only actual experience could give the proper point of view. On the whole, the arrangement seemed to be good, particularly in view of the fact that in England library assistants have a good, strong library association of their own.

The story of American library work as unfolded at the meetings was listened to with attention, and the cordial manner and fine courtesy accorded the visitors led the American visitors to believe that the general expression of good-will was sincere and that the occasional ill-natured remarks that have sometimes crept into fugitive print concerning American librarians and their methods are really without actual foundation. The latter statement was repeated over and over by

those most concerned with the conduct of library affairs. The American visitors came away with the greatest respect for the British library service, for the British librarians as a class, and with a definite feeling of having enjoyed common interest and common ground.

Liverpool is to entertain the English conference in 1912, and the hope was expressed several times that a number of the American librarians would find it consistent with their pleasure and plans to attend that meeting.

Deserved recognition—An occasion such as that of the University of Rochester conferring an honorary degree of Litt. D. on Librarian E. W. Mundy of the Public library of Syracuse, New York, at its last commencement, deserves the recognition and commendation of library workers generally. It seems particularly clear to any one midstream of the current of library development that the contribution of the public libraries of the country to the development of general intelligence and increased use of good books is scarcely equaled by any other form of education of the present day. Whatever may be the effort and enthusiasm of scholars, preachers, teachers, artisans and every class of research workers, the libraries of the country, for the most part, from the smallest to the largest, have responded faithfully, efficiently and often enthusiastically to the demands made upon them. That it is their province so to do, and that anything else would not be a fulfillment of their duties does not in any way detract from the credit due them for their work.

The same statement can be made with regard to any other class of workers that serve in any capacity, and yet it is rarely used while commendation is often given. It is a singular thing, but undoubtedly true, that until very recently educational institutions, from the public schools through the universities, have been the slowest to recognize the work and the power of libraries as educational institutions. Examples of universities, colleges and schools that are but slowly emerging from the mistaken notion of the library as a junk-shop or residuum for unusable material are painfully well known to every one acquainted with the library situation. That here and there universities have honored themselves by recognizing the merit of the work of libraries, as is instanced in the conferring of the degree on Dr Mundy, gives encouragement to those who are striving so earnestly to make known the value of the library as an educational institution, and it is with an increased appreciation of the wise discernment of the powers of the Rochester university that this action is recorded. President Reese, in the conferring of the degree, said:

"We cannot too highly estimate the value of such an institution under guidance such as you have given to it. For the multitudes too busy with the urgent concerns of life to enjoy the student's leisure you have for many years unlocked the treasures preserved for us in literature and taught the people to know the rare comradeship with high souls which acquaintance with books makes possible. As a mark of affectionate esteem for you personally and high regard for the work to which you are devoting your energies with full spiritual earnestness, we confer upon you the degree of doctor of literature and admit you to all the rights and privileges connected therewith."

The honor was well deserved by Dr Mundy and he is to be congratulated on the discernment of his university.

The Brussels Meetings

The long-expected meetings of bibliographers, archivists and librarians were held at Brussels on scheduled time, August 25-31. The representation at the meeting was not large nor very wide geographically; strongest, of course, from the region nearest Brussels. French, German, Belgian, Italian, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, Holland, British and American representatives were present. Many of those attending had been present also at the memorable meeting in London in 1897, and it was impossible not to draw comparison between the two meetings. After making all due allowance for the conditions and personal equations, it is undoubtedly true that the meeting at Brussels was, neither in scope nor effectiveness, in results or power, equal to the meeting of 1897.

There were four lines of interest to the assembled delegates: First, Archives; second, Bibliography; third, General library work; fourth, Popular libraries. The archivists were concerned with the manner of collection and preserving official records. The bibliographers were most interested in the bibliographic details necessary to the proper grouping of material. The third topic covered inter-library loans, marks of ownership, assembling of material and sources of obtaining it. The popular libraries topic, while on the program, was a sort of Lost Pleiad.

It is a rather difficult thing to write an account of the Brussels meeting from the information obtainable by one who was, first, not fully conversant with the two principal languages used in the meeting, French and German, and, second, who was somewhat conscious of being allowed at the meeting rather on sufferance. Such a combination of circumstances is not conducive to clearness of vision or correctness of impression.

The idea of the Brussels meeting was formulated and carried into effect by a group of men who have taken small, if any, part in the development of modern library ideas as exemplified by the libra-

ries in the English-speaking countries, who have but an indistinct notion of the work such libraries attempt and no observation of the modern use of books as a part of the general educational machinery. They are concerned altogether with the collection of scholarly treatises, of rare volumes, and the very valuable work of preserving and tabulating these sources of scholarly research occupies their library horizon to the almost utter exclusion of any other vision of library work.

At the Brussels meeting the collecting of manuscripts and rare books was extolled. The librarian as a learned, dignified scholar who loves his books, who knows their genealogy, relationship and literary history was made much of, but the librarian who chanced not to be of that class, who holds the library to be a reservoir from which anyone who desires shall receive freely, was made to feel his place was not there. As for the American library, more than once was it said plainly, and many times inferentially with evident reservation, that it was a different institution from most of those represented in the meeting and in quite a different class. As was said before, those who formulated and carried into effect the library congress were not familiar, hardly sympathetic, with the popular library, as the public library was called, and the discussion of matters pertaining to it and its work was suffered but not encouraged. As this form of library interest is most largely considered in the English-speaking countries, the delegates from those countries were at times somewhat at a loss to know just what their invitations to be present and participate in the proceedings of the congress included. The programs were issued in limited quantity, so that a large number of those present not being supplied were able to follow the program but lamely. For the most part, one's information as to proceedings was obtained from an occasional announcement, or by the kindness of a fortunate neighbor who possessed an outline of the proceedings.

Many of the papers were printed be-

fore the meeting and were thus put off the schedule, leaving only their approval by the congress to follow. Occasionally, some one ventured to offer an opinion without previous warning or arrangement, but as a rule, an assigned resolution indorsing a sentiment, and its second, made up the record of the proceedings.

One of the topics that were of special interest to all, was the proposed universal code of cataloging, which met general approval, since the only difficulty seems to lie in the absence of a universal language. The resolution carried the suggestion that the entries conform to the bibliographical requirements of each language. It was also declared to be very desirable to have the interloan of material between libraries conducted through the libraries concerned rather than through diplomatic channels, as is the case in some of the countries at present. It was voted that measures should be taken in each country to make a complete registration of the national literature, and while an effort should be made to safeguard the legal rights of authors, at the same time such credit should be given in a way to enrich the literature of the respective countries.

Attention was called to the request of the United States copyright office asking for all English titles. The idea of a register of new copyright books in each country was also indorsed. Another resolution asked that all libraries of educational institutions should be admitted to the circle of international exchange.

A concentration of material in university libraries was strongly set forth by Mr Lyster of the National library of Ireland. He showed conclusively great loss by the departmental system.

A typical instance of the spirit of the bibliographical conference was shown when Miss Giffin of the Library of Congress, desired to present her plea for a universal blind type for printed matter, such as music has. A number of the foreign delegates objected, saying that this was no part of library work and the personal interests of individuals could not be allowed to take the time of the general

convention when more important matters were awaiting consideration. Miss Giffin prevailed, however, and made her plea to those present for help in reaching a decision as to the one type which should be used universally for the blind the world over.

At the meetings devoted to what was termed "popular libraries," meaning public libraries as understood in English, the discussions were rather desultory and for the most part pertained to questions which have been settled so long in the public library world, that their discussion seemed rather futile. Were it not for the charming interpreter, who was always a delight to see and hear, the sessions for the most part would have been something of a burden. Prizes for village reading, special buildings for libraries, work with the schools, and so on, and so on, formed most of the talk. Of course, local conditions colored the utterances of most of the speakers and, as one delegate expressed it, "Nobody knows the size of this congress and if we can have a resolution from it indorsing the idea of one central and several branch buildings, it will help considerably at home." Another insisted that the congress should go on record with the resolution that professional training for librarians is necessary in the small library as well as in the large.

One of the most interesting presentations during the library congress was the lecture on "English Libraries, their buildings and their work," given by L. Stanley Jast. The presentation was adequate from every standpoint and gave a splendid idea of the work done in these institutions in the British Isles. It is to be regretted that more of the continental representatives were not present, but a full audience of those interested in public library work was present and thoroughly enjoyed the lecture. It was particularly interesting to the American delegates, as it was a clear presentation of the work in which most of them were interested. A novel arrangement of mirrors allowed the use of the stereopticon in a well-lighted room.

The attendance at none of the meetings

was very large, unless it might be on the last afternoon, when, perhaps, a company of 60 was gathered for two special reasons. The first was that many of those who had attended the last meeting of the London conference in 1897 and the last meeting in St Louis in 1904 expected a repetition of the pleasure of those occasions. Those who expected this were disappointed. The other group was there to carry through a resolution to form a permanent international association with headquarters in Brussels. There was considerable opposition to this action, but those having the machinery of the meeting in hand put through the resolution, which was declared carried, although voted for by a very small fraction of those present. One of the delegates from the A. L. A. finally securing recognition from the chair, suggested that the matter of permanent organization be referred to a committee for consideration, but if the suggestion was heard no notice was taken of it. The discussion relating to the matter was carried on in French of as many different varieties as there were people speaking, so that only a comparatively small number understood what was being said or done until the resolution was declared carried.

The resolution called for the permanent organization of an international association which shall meet not oftener than every three years nor less seldom than every five years, with a council of arrangements made up from representatives of the various national library associations where such exist and otherwise, from governmental delegates, with headquarters of the association in Brussels.

As the programs contained very much more material than it would have been possible to have considered in tenfold the length of time available, very considerable editing would have added to the value of the collection. Many resolutions expressing the "sentiments of the congress" on as many different subjects were put through by a rapid-fire process, due to previous arrangement, and as there were so many questions, some were

passed over, others grouped and all were disposed of without loss of time or words.

The arrangements of the meeting were perhaps as good as could be expected in a country where library work is not a prime factor, and at a time when the distraction of an exposition lent its inconvenience. Secretary Stanier was most courteous at all times and anxious to meet the demands of the situation, but the requirements of the occasion called for more help than was evidently at his disposal.

The hospitality furnished by the city of Brussels was on a magnificent scale and the occasion of it formed a brilliant picture in the experience of the Brussels visitors. The reception on Sunday afternoon, August 28, by the officers of the exposition and the local officers of the conference was very pleasing, although not all the delegates had yet arrived in the city for this meeting.

The banquet by subscription was a most interesting occasion for those not familiar with such scenes of festivities in foreign countries. A curious aspect of the occasion to the American visitors was the small number of women present. The fact was brought home on more than one occasion, and notably on this, that women as librarians were a negligible quantity with those in charge of the congress. Special places at the table were not assigned to any except the places of honor at the top table, which, by the way, was conspicuous on this occasion by the absence of anyone from the American continent. In the toasts that were scheduled, both the United States and Canada were conspicuous by their absence, but the official deficiency was supplied by the friendly offices of neighboring delegates.

The *raout* at Hotel de Ville was a magnificent affair. The environments were perhaps on a scale of magnificence not to be surpassed even in royal palaces. The Inter-parliamentary meeting brought many other distinguished guests of high degree, and an evening full of interest and enjoyment was the result.

Another notable occasion was a tea at the Municipal art building of Brussels, to

view an exhibition of art of the seventeenth century, where a special concert of ancient music furnished delightful entertainment. Visits to the Royal library and to the Institute Solvay, to the science section of the exposition and to the Bibliographical Institute furnished entertainment of a professional character.

A few, but not many, persons noted in the world of letters, bibliography and libraries were present from time to time during the meeting, though at no time was there any such group of men as were present at London or St Louis. M Otley, M Van de Ghen, M Polin, Dr Palmgren, Dr Lundstedt, Dr Steenberg and Mr Lyster graced the meeting, both by their presence and contributions. It was inevitable that much form should prevail in the conduct of the meetings. It was necessary, perhaps, but it detracted from the pleasure. Those who differed in their ideas in regard to the conduct of affairs from the presiding officers, however, were set right with no waste of formalities.

Taken all in all, the library meeting at Brussels might be said to be interesting as a sociological question and well worth seeing. It would be interesting to know what impression remains in the minds of continental librarians as to the helpfulness that will grow out of it. Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Holland are making notable contributions to the library as an educational institution, but the discussion of library topics forms the largest contribution in most of the other continental countries.

M. E. A.

A man without a policy, without a definite purpose, without a strong conviction of any kind, who believes a little of everything and not much of anything, who is willing upon pressure to relinquish his opinion on any idea he has conceived, whether it be feasible or not, who does not hold on to any one thing tenaciously, will never accomplish much in this world.—Success.

The British Library Meeting at Exeter

A number of American librarians who were spending some time in England were fortunate enough to be able to accept the invitation to attend the meeting of the English library association held at Exeter, September 5-9. The occasion was not only a profitable one, professionally, but proved most pleasant in bringing into closer touch personally those who had known of each other and of each other's work at a distance. It was the thirty-third annual meeting of the Library association and in point of pleasure, profit and number in attendance was a decided success. The citizens of Exeter gave splendid support to Librarian Tapley-Soper in his effort to supply every demand of the occasion, thereby adding to the credit of Exeter as a desirable place to visit as well as showing the high esteem in which they hold Mr Tapley-Soper and his work.

The meeting opened with a reception by the Mayor of Exeter at the Albert Memorial building on Monday evening when many of the leading citizens and officers of Devonshire were present to lend charm to the occasion and to welcome the members. The rooms were handsomely decorated with plants and flowers from the Mayor's gardens and the presence of the official regalia of the various dignitaries, the lines of mace bearers and firemen with longhandled axes at the main entrance to the reception room, gave a touch of color and sentiment quite new to some of those present.

The Devonshire regiment orchestral band furnished the music. In the museum room were displayed many ancient city records, among them the charter granted by Henry II, attested by Thomas a' Becket, being the earliest city charter extant. Charters, seals, acts, letters, etc., many hundreds of years old, were displayed.

Many rare volumes from the library were also on exhibition.

On Tuesday morning, the Mayor officially welcomed the Library association to Exeter in an address that showed him to be a warm friend of the public library, with an intelligent grasp of its work and place in the community.

The new president of the Library association, Dr F. G. Kenyon, director and chief librarian of British Museum, formally opened the sessions of the library association and gave an address full of inspiration and helpfulness to the assembly. He dwelt on the power of public libraries to assist in the regeneration of English life away from the pursuit of material self-interest, and into a new and general line of self-culture and self-training for the good of all the people.

Dr Kenyon's address was a distinct contribution to library literature. He answered most effectively in a dignified way, the criticisms on the public library as a municipal institution so often heard from uninformed sources.

H. Lloyd Parry of Exeter made a strong appeal for the collection, preservation and exhibition of local original manuscripts. They are of great value, not only as formal historical documents, but also as throwing side light on the manners and customs, the home life and every day progress of people, thereby showing the progress of civilization itself. Mr Parry thought it an ideal arrangement to have a library, a museum or a college under one roof or in adjoining buildings. He urged wider practice in placing bibliographical references on museum exhibits, so that the latter may gain as educational forces instead of being so often merely show places.

Dr Kenyon endorsed Mr Parry's paper and told how the British Museum was working to fulfill its function as a historical reservoir.

L. Stanley Jast gave a humorous,

but half serious plea for the loose leaf principle to be applied to catalogs and other works of reference of a changing and progressive nature.

He could see possibilities even in regard to the novel. One might be able to buy a novel with either a happy or a miserable ending, and "risky" novels might be issued for family use, with alternative pages for special service, which could be kept in father's desk! The ultimate results of the adoption of the loose leaf principle in certain works of reference would be so great as to fundamentally change the conditions of book production as they existed today, as well as enormously enhance the role of the public library with the life of the community of tomorrow.

An interesting paper was read by Dr E. A. Baker of Woolwich on "Book selection, fundamental principles and some applications." Dr Baker said that most rules for book selection were vague platitudes and incoherent generalizations. Every book bought must subserve one of two purposes, utility and humanism. The system of providing books in public libraries had to be organized to answer the every possible inquiry of teacher, student, businessman, workman, people engaged in social and political work, public speakers and journalists. On the other hand, to meet the humanist idea, the material had to satisfy those who were interested in knowledge for its own sake, in literature having no practical value, but read for its spiritual and emotional bearing on life. Book selection is governed entirely by local conditions and there can be no rigid scheme adopted for general use. Continued observation and correction are necessary in every library. A library cannot be developed along right lines by estimating the number of books as independent units, regardless whether they supplement each other or not. Correlation is a vital necessity. Every book should be linked with, be sub-

ordinate or supplementary to, some other book or group of books.

Dr Baker emphasized the need for the fullest and latest works of reference. The curiosity which seeks satisfaction in newspapers and cheap magazines should be taught how to satisfy itself with accurate information. Standard books are cheap and readers of books buy them largely. Therefore, libraries should be supplied with bibliographies and guides to the best authorities on the most useful books to buy.

On Tuesday afternoon a visit was made by invitation to Exeter cathedral and its library. The archdeacon of Exeter gave an interesting account of the principal events in the history of the cathedral and its architectural features. Many priceless manuscripts and early books were on view. The visitors were shown the cathedral, and its beautiful galleries, windows and vistas were viewed with delight. From there the party proceeded to the grounds of the bishop's palace on invitation of Bishop and Mrs. Robinson. The most gracious hospitality was dispensed, greetings were exchanged between visitors and a delightful hour spent.

On Tuesday evening a public meeting was held, where the subject of "Libraries as an educational force" was discussed. The Lord Bishop of Exeter occupied the chair and in his opening address paid a high tribute to the office of the librarian and the value of the use of books in every community. One of the notable addresses of the meeting was given on Tuesday evening by Mr Jennings of the library committee of Brighton, who presented the just claims of the library to be reckoned a part of the educational system of every community. He emphasized the fact that there must be more than mere provision for books, there must be guidance as well. He made a plea for better facilities for development of libraries by municipal authorities, and

a greater belief in the power of the library by the public generally.

Mr Ballinger of the National library of Wales gave a splendid address on "Library extension," strongly emphasizing the desirability of breaking down the barriers between the people and the books, the sweeping away of traditions by which books are bound to the loss of their power. Librarians must see to it that they do not give too much thought to preventing the loss of books and thereby exclude from the libraries those people who would be most greatly benefited. It was time that the hamper of inadequate laws for providing financial support for libraries was removed.

Dr McLean of Glasgow library board, in a most interesting and pleasing address, claimed for the free library the greatest power in developing the spiritual and intellectual life of every community.

At the meeting on Wednesday morning, C. W. Andrews of The John Crerar library, Chicago, in response to an invitation described the library movement in America. He told of the power of the library associations, both national and local, the difference in the control of the libraries in the various states and of the work that the Library of Congress is doing for library development in America. He referred to the organization of libraries by great commercial houses for the use of their officials and workers and referred to a tendency toward the establishment of a central lending library for college, university and large reference libraries where they could make one copy of a costly and rare serial to serve the needs of any number of institutions.

M. E. Ahern, editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, was asked to speak on the public library movement in America. She said the fundamental idea of the public library movement was expressed in the statement "the public library is an integral part of public

education;" that the public libraries were not the great reservoirs of great collections of books of which the European countries were so justly proud, but rather living organisms containing something for every interest in the community. There is much work done coöperatively by the schools and the public libraries and the educational idea is further developed by the courses of lectures in the libraries of the country by means of which the library is made a real educational force for the various workers in the community. She spoke of the work of the State library commissions in bringing aid to every educational interest of the state by means of traveling libraries and special books, so that more and more the book is making its way as a tool into the hands of the common people. She referred to the phase of American life which, rightly or wrongly, looks at any proposition from a business standpoint, and as the public library is more and more justifying its expenditure to the people it serves, their support and approval are more and more taking the form of increased appropriations.

Mr Locke of the Toronto public library responded to invitation by saying that in Canada they were growing, that there, growing was characteristic; they were growing just as much in library work as they were in material wealth and were putting life and effort into library work. A large part of their work was done with the debating clubs throughout the dominion, which were dealing with the problems that interested the colony and the empire, and they were bringing their young people to appreciate the problems that England had to solve as a nation.

State-librarian Brown of Indiana gave an account of the work of the Indiana state library, which, as there is no such institution as a state library in England, was listened to with great interest.

Miss Roberts of the Public library

of Newark, N. J., gave an account of the information department and its work in finding for the people who came to the library just the things that they wanted.

Most cordial expressions of good feeling and interest were voiced by many of the auditors for the American speakers at the close of their remarks, and nowhere was there evidenced anything but the most cordial professional feeling.

Cyril J. Davenport, superintendent of bookbinding of the British Museum, gave a most interesting reading on "Bookbinding in France," illustrated by beautiful lantern slides of the finest specimens of work of all the greatest French binders. The slides were painted by Mr Davenport.

In the afternoon the association enjoyed a most beautiful drive through the downs of Exmoor to the country home of Sir Robert Newman, whose guests they were for tea. Much enjoyment was derived in viewing the beautiful grounds and halls of the beautiful mansion hung with tapestries and having many handsome pieces of architecture, splendid Louis XVI furniture, magnificent ceilings and mantel pieces, which were very much admired.

In the evening an outdoor concert was most enjoyable as well as unique.

The meeting on Thursday morning was devoted to the discussion of village children and books, the principal paper being read by Prof. A. M. Forster of Exeter college, urging the necessity of an adequate supply of literature for the village children, and condemning some of the present day methods of instructing the child in the study of literature. A most interesting discussion of this subject followed, during which Miss Clatworthy of Dayton was called on to speak of the training of the teachers in the Dayton normal school in the special library courses. The discussion brought out the fact that the weak place in the development of the

library movement in England is the lack of state supervision which is furnished in America through the state libraries and the state library commissions.

*Various reports completed the work of the morning. In the afternoon the association held a private sitting, at which the various business reports of the meeting were received and discussed.

The entertainment for the evening was a most brilliant affair, consisting of the annual conference dinner, which is always a matter of considerable moment in the English association. Various dignitaries of the municipality, people of prominence in the neighborhood connected with the government were present. Toasts were eloquently offered and responded to and the occasion was one of the greatest pleasure to all concerned.

Friday was devoted to an excursion down the river to Dartmouth, thence to Torquay, where luncheon was served in the public buildings through the courtesy of the authorities of the town. After inspecting the libraries, the brakes were again taken for a magnificent drive around Torquay and Torquay Bay and the day ended with a tea at Torr Abbey by invitation of Colonel and Mrs Carey. This is one of the oldest places in England continuously in possession of its owners and the history and description of it were most interesting.

This section of England is full of historical interest for the American traveler. Here were the homes of Raleigh, Gilbert, Drake and other early explorers whose deeds furnish part of American history as well as a record of English valor.

In the evening an impromptu concert was an interesting feature, being furnished entirely by the company present. It formed a unique entertainment for the visiting librarians, who were entirely unacquainted with

this form of enjoyment, but found it most interesting and delightful.

Undoubtedly the meeting at Exeter cannot but be productive of good to the British libraries, and as for the American visitors, they were of one accord in expressing themselves delighted with the hospitality and friendliness of their hosts and tremendously pleased and impressed with the ardent library spirit abounding throughout the conference.

The woman librarian was more in evidence at the Exeter meeting, than she was in the meetings of 1897. Miss Frost, Miss Fegan and Miss Pierce, three women in charge of libraries, and several others, who are in charge of special work, had an acknowledged place among those in attendance.

Eliza G. Browning and D. C. Brown of Indianapolis, Miss Roberts of Newark, N. J., Linda M. Clatworthy of Dayton, O., accompanied by her mother, George M. Utley of Jacksonville, Fla., Miss Ahern and Mr Andrews of Chicago and George H. Locke of Toronto were the American visitors at the Exeter meeting.

Some of the strongest members of the association are members of boards of directors. A notable instance at Exeter was O. J. Jennings of the library board of Brighton, a man of fine literary attainment, refinement and culture, who is interested in books as vital forces and does not hesitate to make a strong plea for their dissemination. Alderman Plummer of Manchester and his colleague, Mr. Abbot, are also strong supporters of the library movement.

A post conference trip, as it were, was taken on Saturday by invitation of Librarian W. H. K. Wright of Plymouth, to that ancient seat of seamen and pilgrims where the hospitality of the municipality made the time of sightseeing a great pleasure. The new library building is beautiful and gave delight to the visitors.

*Acknowledgment is made of the use of the accounts of the meetings given in the daily press of Exeter.

American Library Association**Mackinac meeting, June 30-July 6**

Not for many years have the members of the A. L. A. had a meeting as free from "drive" as the 1910 meeting at Mackinac Island. The various affiliated societies and others not affiliated took life very hard in trying to find the real reason for their coming together, but the parent association was for once a leisure body in what it had to do. And not for a long time, either, was there such a feeling of comradeship as was manifest on every hand. There was a large number of strangers present, brought out by the new elements in the association. Programs overlapped in many instances, sometimes repeated subjects, and everywhere was evidence of power waiting to be directed into proper, consistent channels. The general program was made up for the most part of papers calculated to entertain rather than to instruct or provoke thought, though such a paper as Mr Hill's on the deterioration of the lasting qualities of paper needs to be specially noted.

The first general session was held on the evening of July 1, when the association was given a treat of a different kind from that usually presented on opening nights. Singing of Michigan songs lent local color, aided by the graceful address of welcome by Miss Preston, president of Michigan library association. President Hodges may always be expected to map out a new line in a convention address, and on this occasion "An anathema upon finger posts" was no exception. He has a peculiar style of humor all his own and may drive home many a truth that presented by another leaves a sort of sting that is wholly lacking in his treatment. On this occasion he emphasized the environment, if one may call it so, that makes for value in selection, evaluation, segregation, coördination, and coöperation. He outlined the elements of efficiency in the library material and characterized the needed qualities for efficiency in the librarian. He closed by saying "the library is not only a reservoir

for collecting, assorting, cataloging and distributing books, but it is also created for the purpose of disseminating knowledge and increasing the ethical and aesthetic life of our towns and cities."

Mrs Henry Hulst gave a political rendering of the geographical, biological and legendary history of Michigan, and in closing, made out a case for the Indians as against the whites without forcing the truth of history in the least.

The Hon. Mr Pattingill was mirth-provoking, though most of his audience were clear outside the tenor of his speech.

At the second general session the connection between libraries and schools was vitalized for the time, however far it may lapse later, as Dr Judd, director of School of education, Chicago, outlined the mutual dependence of each on the other in the work both are doing. Not for a long time have librarians heard so practical a point of view from a school man as to the place of the library in the scheme of education. He urged a study period in school programs for consideration of library methods and hoped the library staff might be called on for the instruction till such a time as a corps of teachers should grow up able to teach library methods.

Dr Judd laid the foundation for many calls by library bodies for similar addresses.

"Recent interpretations of life" was taken as the keynote of the book symposium, conducted by James I. Wyer, jr, in which several speakers gave their personal opinion of recent books of fiction, fact, travel and biography. Wallace Rice of Chicago finished the morning's program by an address on "Book reviewing and manuscript reading from the inside."

Perhaps the third general session was in most ways the most notable of the meeting. Technical literature holds something of dread for many librarians, and it was a fine audience, not only in numbers but in quality also, that assembled to hear Secretary Frost of the Engineering News Publishing Company talk on the selection of technical books and period-

icals. The address was full of plain instruction and in the main a capital one, but Mr Frost was most too generous in his contribution, and was just that far not in sympathy with his audience. He made the following points among many other very good ones:

Engineers never get over using the periodicals and books. It is necessary to know good points of publications in order to buy satisfactorily. Must know the following points: Make-up, author, publisher and standing. Proceedings valuable, but not so difficult a problem as books and periodicals. Scientific books have always been found in collections, from ancient to modern times, but are now issued by the 10,000. Can't read all but must select over a wide range. Good literature is to be had, but bad seems good. Poor literature is usually compilations from transactions and periodicals. Hack writers' work to be avoided. Compilations better than these but not a good book if only facts are given. Must have a purpose supported by evidence. College literature must be exceedingly carefully selected as it is the first seed planted in the technical student's mind. Must keep books up to date. Technical literature overlaps, but engineers generally realize the relation and expansion of their reading.

When book cannot be seen it is best to depend on dealers' and publishers' review.

A recreation symposium, conducted by S. H. Ranck of Grand Rapids, Mich., showed him a recreation enthusiast and his plea for a sabbatical year for librarians had good sense and logic as its foundation. The program was contributed by a number of speakers in five-minute talks, full of wit and wisdom in support of various forms of recreation, each claiming the palm for his own particular diversion.

Mr Dana believes in having recreation akin to his work, and so printing presses appeal to him. He thoroughly agreed with Dr Vaughn of the University of Michigan in advocating all forms of physical recreation in moderation, though

tabooing automobiles and strenuous football.

Miss Countryman of Minneapolis portrayed the health and joy that attend outdoor sleeping rooms and enjoined her hearers to try it and be convinced. Miss Stansbury of Spokane advocated walking, using eyes, ears and fingers to gather in the vigor and pleasure to be had thereby.

Mr Wellman of Springfield, Mass., preached tennis on this occasion as earnestly as he has practiced it for years, and evidently had a large following in the audience. Miss Everhart of Atlanta is a baseball enthusiast and as such painted the joy and gladness that fills the hearts of those who have attained the title "fan."

Mr Carr was listened to with mingled feeling of awe and envy, of surprise and rebellion, as he spoke of the automobile in the plural number, while most of the audience, it may be said, followed him afar off mid gasoline fumes mixed with dust, punctured with honks and accompanied by starts and stops, tinctured with heart failures and relief as they recalled their only experience with automobiles.

Mr Burpee of Ottawa soothed the ruffled spirit engendered by Mr Carr as he set forth the delights of a plain, well-broken hobby-horse. He was speaking of what most his audience knew and so he easily gained their approval of his choice.

Mr Wright of two cities (St Joseph and Los Angeles) told of his sorties in the early morning and the gathering twilight along the country road, astride his prancing steed and followed by "Bobs." The latter was somehow very real, and made up at times for the shadowy forms of his two companions.

Dr Thwaites of Wisconsin painted the charm that canoeing held for him, but mud flats, "carrys," mosquitoes and flies somehow seemed to be in the foreground most of the time, preventing the average listener from hearing the dip of the paddle and seeing the gleam of water as he told of the picture of Paradise he had in his mind.

Mr Dudley of Denver offered his homage to golf, but somehow one could not but wonder if the wires were not crossed somewhere and he really meant a cue when he said "putter."

No such query followed the ardent claims made by Mr Andrews of Chicago. One felt the speaker was on familiar ground as he pictured "greens," "holes," "ups," "downs," "to goes," trophies, and the glow of the expert touched the spirit of even the uninitiated as he listened and resolved that ere another conference he would "try it out and see."

Miss Van Valkenburgh as a "birder" was no less delightful than when in the previous symposium she captured her audience as a critic of romance-writing.

A resident of Chicago and a believer in its ultimate true greatness found much pleasure in the address of Graham Romyne Taylor, as he threw on the screen picture after picture showing the great results of the efforts toward amelioration of conditions in the congested districts of that city. His subject, "Playgrounds and recreation," kept in close touch with the mission of the book as he portrayed the new relation growing up between the public library and recreation centers in large cities, but particularly in Chicago.

The last session on Wednesday afternoon opened with a specially interesting presentation of the subject, "Deterioration of paper used in newspapers," by Frank P. Hill of Brooklyn.

L. J. Burpee presented a detailed account of the work of the Aberdeen association of Canada, which carried with it a record of increased helpfulness toward the pioneer settlers of the Dominion. Rev. Fitzpatrick gave some stirring experiences connected with his personal work in the reading tents carried on in the logging and mining camps in the Canadian wilderness. His pictures were books in themselves, telling all the story of the human heart from grave to gay.

The delight of the audience expressed itself in repeated calls for the singer of old Canadian folk songs, M. Henri Le Febvre of Ottawa, who charmed the

audience more than once by singing as best he could to impromptu accompaniment.

A charming touch was given at the closing moment of the meeting by a resolution expressing the appreciation of the women of the conference of the gracious participation of "Lady President," Mrs Hodges, who endeared herself to all who came in contact with her by her sympathetic interest in all that concerned them, reaching from sick rooms to ballroom in her ministrations.

The officers elected for the year 1910-11 are as follows:

President, James I. Wyer, jr.
First vice-president, Mrs H. L. Elmendorf.
Second vice-president, W. Dawson Johnston.
Executive board (for term expiring 1913):
Herbert Putnam, Purd B. Wright.

Council (for term expiring 1915) elected by council: George F. Bowerman, W. N. C. Carlton, Linda A. Eastman, Mary F. Isom, Judson T. Jennings.

Elected by association: Lawrence J. Burpee, Johnson Brigham, Eliza G. Browning, Julia T. Rankin, Sula Wagner.

Executive board notes

At the executive board meeting on July 6 at Mackinac Island the following appointments to boards and committees were made:

Publishing Board:
Mrs H. L. Elmendorf.

Finance committee:
C. W. Andrews.
F. F. Dawley.
E. H. Anderson.

Coöperation with the N. E. A.:
Mary E. Ahern.
Genevieve M. Walton.
Irene Warren.
Ida M. Mendenhall.
George H. Locke.

Library training:

A. S. Root.
A. E. Bostwick.
Mary W. Plummer.
Grace D. Rose.
Adam Strohm.
Caroline M. Underhill.
Alice S. Tyler.
Albert Brandeis.

Book buying:

W. L. Brown, chairman, with power to select two other members.

Federal and state relations: C. F. D. Belden, to succeed W. C. Lane.

Program committee: J. I. Wyer, jr, Chalmers Hadley, Mrs H. L. Elmendorf.
Public Documents committee: C. B. Reeder, to succeed Charles McCarthy.

Alice S. Tyler was designated to serve pro temporary (until 1911) to succeed Mrs Elmendorf, resigned, as special member of the executive board.

A letter from A. Hastings Grant of New York made offer to the A. L. A. to turn over the documents belonging to his father, who was secretary of the Librarian's convention held in New York city in 1853. Mr Grant offered to turn over the collection under certain conditions to the A. L. A. The executive board acknowledged the offer, and it is probable that the papers will come into the possession of the American library association.

Delegates of the American library association to the Brussels conference, appointed by the executive board, were:

Dr E. C. Richardson, C. W. Andrews, Mary E. Ahern, George F. Bowerman, A. J. F. Van Laer, R. R. Bowker.

It was voted that the draft for changes in the by-laws relating to sections read as follows:

The petitions for the establishment of sections shall be presented only by members actively engaged in the work of the proposed section and by not less than 20 such members. Before such a petition be granted by the council it shall be referred to a special committee to be appointed by the president, which committee, after investigating the grounds for the petition and the conditions regarding it, shall report to the council as to the desirability of such section. Council shall have power to discontinue a section when, in the opinion of the council, the usefulness of that section has ceased.

Notes

A notable feature of the meeting was the number of special dinner parties and gatherings that brought together those having a common bond. Library schools led in numbers, but state reunions, libraries and sections had spirit enough for all requirements. The Michigan delegation showed up in numbers, in efficiency and in hospitality. The tea-party on the veranda on the first day gave a good send-off to friendliness which lasted through the meeting.

A cordial good feeling pervaded the groups that for one reason or another formed at times. Only now and then, far apart and ineffective, was the note of discord perceptible, and it soon faded away because of the good fellowship and friendly spirit manifest on every side. Not for a long time has the atmosphere been so free from criticism of men. Exclusiveness does not flourish in democratic library gatherings and those attempting it have only made themselves ridiculous in the futile efforts toward it.

One of the jarring notes was the willingness on the part of some of the speakers to imitate Tennyson's brook.

The permanent secretary was an unfailing source of helpfulness and good cheer and his record for the few months he has had charge of affairs promises effective work for the future.

More new faces were seen at the meeting this year than has been the case for many years. A significant fact was that they were mostly young persons, many of them but recently from the training schools, full of zeal and enthusiasm.

Professional training section

The meeting of this section was devoted to the consideration of two main topics, "Essentials of a good library school" and "The apprentice class." Informal discussions by many of the librarians present added greatly to the interest in the meeting.

In her discussion of "The essentials of a good library school," Miss Tobitt of the Omaha public library emphasized the importance of a complete equipment. She said, "This equipment should contain not only representative collections of classes of books usually found in a public library, but must also contain a map collection, picture collections, documents, publications of societies, reference books both foreign and English, a full collection of trade bibliographies, when possible some special collections, and as much more material as may be necessary to form a basis for the instruction of students who are

to become librarian of various classes of libraries."

Other phases of the topic considered by Miss Tobitt were those of entrance requirements to library schools, the selection of student candidates and the importance of giving attention in library schools to the business and financial side of library work and to the social extension work of the library. In conclusion the speaker said, "There are some schools in existence which are purporting to teach in full all details of our profession when in reality only the most elementary instruction is being given, frequently by means of trifling collections of books and to students who are wholly unprepared. Schools of this class and those teaching only technical work should be avoided by the student who works with the end in view of giving the best of himself in the service of the public."

Purd B. Wright of the Los Angeles public library and William F. Yust of the Louisville free public library led in the discussion of this question.

The apprentice class in the large library was discussed by Miss Welles of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh and by Miss A. Shepard of the City library association of Springfield, Mass.

Miss Welles described the work of the apprentice class at Pittsburgh where there are three groups of lectures as follows:

1 A group treating of library technique designed to give the students a general survey of the subject and special instruction in the systems used in the Pittsburgh library.

2 A group planned to familiarize the student with the work of the Pittsburgh library, of other Pittsburgh institutions and with local conditions and history.

3 A group on general history and literature designed to acquaint the student with the best books on these subjects.

The courses are given by different

members of the staff, each one selected for his ability to deal practically with the subject in question.

The work of the apprentice class at the Springfield library was described by Miss Shepard. In conclusion she said, "The main advantages of the apprentice system with us have been:

"1 The actual addition in service of several persons to the working force of the library through the busiest months of the year.

"2 The reflex benefit upon the staff through their work in teaching the class.

"3 Provision for eligible list of available candidates for vacancies that may occur in the staff."

This conclusion was discussed by Frank P. Hill of the Brooklyn public library, Arthur E. Bostwick of the St. Louis public library and George F. Bowerman of the District of Columbia public library.

In concluding her paper on "The apprentice class in the small library," Miss Van Buren of the Mankato (Minn.) public library said in part, "An apprentice course should be taken up during the time of year when the most active work of the library is in progress. Relative values and the distinctions between essentials and non-essentials are brought out in the small library to a degree impossible in the library school unless the instructors have had broad experience in the general work of the library. The work actually accomplished by the short term apprentice hardly compensates for the time the librarian spends in teaching and revision which might be devoted more profitably to the actual work of the library."

Grace D. Rose of the Davenport (Iowa) public library said in part, "It has been our experience that the amount of help given by an apprentice just out of high school does not compensate for the time their instruction requires, while several apprentices who were college graduates were re-

liable assistants long before their term was over."

John Grant Moulton of the Haverhill (Mass.) public library said, "As to an apprentice class without pay I cannot speak from actual experience, but I should not want one. Such service would be of a low grade and worth little to a library. Better training can be obtained at the regular library schools, higher standards can be maintained and better workers can be trained who can command higher salaries."

The question was discussed further by Arthur L. Bailey of the Wilmington free institute library.

Following the adoption of by-laws for the section, officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, P. L. Windsor, University of Illinois library school; Secretary, Alice S. Tyler, Iowa summer library school.

College and reference section

W. Dawson Johnstop, librarian of Columbia university, presided at the two sessions held by the College and Reference section on the evening of July 2 and the afternoon of July 3.

The central theme of the first session was The relation of the college library to the public and other libraries. Dr W. K. Jewett, librarian of the University of Nebraska, presented a paper on The relation of the college library to the public. After a brief introduction discussing the right of universities to serve, Dr Jewett cited certain instances where the university and college libraries were serving those outside their walls. Among the examples mentioned were: 1) inter-library loans especially by libraries with rich special collections, such as Harvard and Columbia; 2) the Iowa law of 1904, permitting colleges and towns to undertake joint maintenance of a library which has not proved successful in the one case operating under the law, Cornell college, Mt Vernon; 3) the extension of the college library privileges to summer visitors in the town, which Williams college

has found successful; 4) the offer of a university to supply the town needs in case of the destruction of the city library, as shown by the University of California's offer to the public of San Francisco at the time of the earthquake; 5) professional men's use of special collections at a university library, as shown by the Burlington railroad employees' use of the engineering collection at the University of Nebraska, and the local doctors' and lawyers' use of the University of Michigan's medical and law books; 6) the university library's opportunity to offer superior bibliographical lists on special subjects; 7) and lastly, the constant opportunity that the trained workers in college libraries have to give advice to the public as to the best books on a given subject, both for use and purchase.

P. L. Windsor, librarian of the University of Illinois, presented a paper on "The relation of the State university library to other libraries of the state." These included "a large number of tax-supported municipal libraries, a considerable number of college and university libraries, libraries of professional schools, including normal schools, a few public libraries supported by endowments, the state library, libraries of high schools and academies, and occasional libraries of learned societies and other educational agencies. Within each state the library of the state university is generally found among the largest two or three, and is generally growing relatively fast; so that the relations to be considered are those between a large library and smaller ones. However, a more potent factor in determining the relation lies in the fact that the state university library is supported by state funds, and, in common with the other parts of the university, belongs in a peculiarly close sense to the people at large. Through the students, it comes into personal relations with citizens of every corner of the state, and as a consequence the people and their local institutions generally feel that they have a valid claim on its services and resources. Many men of the faculty of the state university identify themselves with the vari-

ous educational, commercial, philanthropic and other interests of the state, prosecute special investigations into the resources of the various parts of the state, and in every way possible try to extend the benefits of their departments of the university to the whole state; all this, too, makes it the natural thing for the library also to plan and carry on a work that reaches beyond the resident student body and faculty."

Mr Windsor advocated having the state university send to local libraries books, pictures and lantern slides for limited periods. There is "no conclusive reason why the state university library should not send out such traveling libraries, and in some states this library is an agency ready at hand which could do much of the work better than the state library or a library commission. With the state university so frequently attempting so many forms of extension work and non-formal instruction, the traveling library for the use of study, club, and high school constituents of the small public library ought not to be thought beyond the scope of its work."

"A third service the state university library can render to the other libraries is to avail itself of its natural position as a training ground for librarians and library assistants of the state. Library schools and summer library schools fall so easily within the generally accepted scope of a state university's activity that where there is any real need for either of these agencies the library should aim to supply it. Cordial active support of library institutes is akin to this work of instruction and should be expected of the state university library. Nor should this training of library workers cease with these more formal agencies; the library should hold itself ready and willing to attempt an answer to any specific questions relating to library management that arise in the libraries of the state."

The idea of a state university as an experiment station for the libraries of the state was advanced and, as an example, the need for study of disinfection of books cited. The state university library

is, furthermore, well prepared to answer general reference questions and serve as a "bureau of bibliographic information" for them. The experts in these lines on the staff, as well as the collection of books, make it well equipped for such service. It has the opportunity to distribute to advantage to the libraries of the state the state university publications, exchanges and library duplicates.

Mr Windsor concludes his paper with the following statement: "If I have considered only one side of the relations which should, and do exist, it is partly because the state university library does owe everything to the state which supports it, partly because it is much more frequently able to offer help than are the great majority of other libraries within the state, and partly because it is perfectly safe to leave them to discover any service they may render the state university library. In what I have said there has been lurking no unexpressed desire for, or expectation of, any equivalent return of so-called 'favors'; the justification of our support by state funds lies in the service we can render, and the more complete this justification the better satisfied we shall be."

The "Relation of the college library to the public in a college town" was the title of the paper read for W. I. Fletcher, librarian of Amherst college. Mr Fletcher was unable to attend the conference. The paper was limited entirely to the study of colleges located in smaller cities or towns. Inquiries were sent to 50 college libraries and the results given in this paper. Mr Fletcher advocates cordiality on the part of the college libraries, especially in helping the teachers of the public schools, club workers in the towns, and all special students living in the towns and not connected with the colleges. He brings the paper to a close with the suggestion "that the college libraries may yet do much more to fasten and seal the bond which, through all petty and superficial rivalries, should hold together 'town and gown.'"

Laura R. Gibbs, cataloger at Brown university, discussed the ever perplexing

problem of "Student assistants in college libraries." She emphatically states that if a library has the money at its disposal "it is unquestionably better to employ two or three regular assistants at fair salaries than to scatter the work among a dozen or more untrained workers." She does, however, show how student assistants have been employed to advantage by giving them some preliminary training and under careful supervision having them work on the mechanical preparation of the books for the shelves, in the care of the shelves, alphabetizing cards, typewriting catalog cards from temporary slips, ordering and preparing Library of Congress cards, shelf list entries, and even cataloging simpler books.

William H. Brett, librarian of the Cleveland public library, presented the results of a set of questions which he had sent to 200 libraries on the "Relation of the public library to the college." He received answers from 86 public libraries and 53 colleges. He summed up these results and read extracts from the papers.

Clement W. Andrews, librarian of The John Crerar library, Chicago, presented the following report from the A. L. A. publishing board:

Printed cards

"As a result of conferences and consultations culminating at the Cleveland conference in 1896, the publishing board undertook the publication of printed cards for analytical entries from a selected list of serials, and has continued the work to the present time. Recent developments, however, appear to require a redetermination of the principles which should govern the work and a radical revision of the list of serials to be analyzed.

The original list was formed by each of the five libraries which agreed to furnish titles, naming enough serials to give approximately an equal number of titles. As the first list of 194 serials did not give the intended number of 3000, the list was increased from time to time until a maximum of 306 was reached. On the other hand, when the Library of Congress began to issue printed cards for a consider-

able number of these serials all such were dropped by the publishing board, so that at present there are only 200, yielding about 2700 titles a year, and of these 12 are not assigned to any library.

Besides the heterogeneous character of the list due to the manner of its formation and increased by the subsequent changes, the greatest drawbacks are the discrepancies in the subject headings and the delays in issue, both inevitable in co-operative work, even with the careful attention to details given, and the impossibility of filling any but advance orders. On the other hand, where all are taken, the price, $1\frac{1}{4}$ cents per card, is the same as that asked by the Library of Congress, while for a selection the charge of 2 cents a card is still low, considering the small edition.

The developments which make necessary a revision of the work are, first, the issue of the Library of Congress cards; second, the extension of that work, in accordance with its recent offer, to include certain classes of desirable titles received from other libraries; third, the issue of the International catalog of scientific literature; fourth, a growing feeling that the list is altogether too miscellaneous; and fifth, the change in editor made necessary by the change in the location of the work of the board.

It has seemed to the board that there are three ways in which the work may be curtailed to the advantage of all concerned, and they hope by doing this to make it possible to add to it in any direction which may be desired by any considerable number of subscribers.

In the first place, they propose to ask the Library of Congress to undertake on its own account a few serials, strictly monographic in character, or else published by the United States government, which would appear to have been overlooked. In the second place, they hope that that library will extend its offer to print titles furnished by other libraries, when five subscriptions are assured, to include material from the more important serials even if not strictly monographic.

in form or character. In the third place, they would be inclined to drop all special periodicals containing only short articles and perhaps all scientific periodicals covered by the International catalog.

A cursory examination of the first fifth of the present list indicates that of a maximum of 2700 titles a year from 200 serials, the Library of Congress ought to catalog for itself about 100 titles from 20 serials; that it might be expected to print from copy sent it about 300 from 65; that about 800 from 50 ought certainly to be printed by the board, and that the remainder, 1200 titles from 65 serials, should be considered doubtful. Some of these ought to be printed by the Library of Congress, or if not by them, certainly by the board, but many may well be dropped entirely, while as to a very considerable number the decision will depend upon the views taken by the subscribers as to the advisability of duplicating material in the International catalog. The board feels that this is a most important point and hope that it may receive due attention in the discussion which they hope will follow this presentation of the problem before them.

This is a question which interests chiefly the College and Reference section. Most general public libraries in any case will subscribe to a selection only, but if a few general questions can be settled to the satisfaction of a considerable number of college and reference libraries they ought to find it advantageous to make complete subscriptions.

In drawing up the circular which they propose to issue soon the board will bear in mind the opinions expressed here. In that circular, also, they will ask for suggestions as to any expansions which may be desired."

An interesting discussion on various problems of interest to college and reference librarians followed.

The election of officers for the ensuing year followed. A. S. Root, librarian of Oberlin college, was elected chairman, and Irene Warren, librarian of the School of education, University of Chicago, was elected secretary.

National Association of State Libraries

Proceedings of meeting at Mackinac Island, Mich., July 1-5, 1910

The first session (July 1, 10 a. m.) opened with the address of welcome by the state librarian of Michigan, a felicitous effort which, with the president's address, started the convention on the high level of excellence which characterized it throughout. These addresses were followed by the reports of the secretary and of the committees of the association. It was reported that during the year the membership had been increased by the addition of the Colorado, Texas and Wyoming state libraries, the Boston and New York public libraries, the Worcester county and Northwestern university law libraries, and the Law reporting company. The session closed with the paper of Mr Brown of Indiana on the "Relation of the state library to other libraries in the state." In this he advocated such supervision as conditions in each state made possible, provided it did not go so far as to kill local independence and initiative; but laid stress on the relatively greater importance of sympathetic advice and aid on the part of the state library.

The second session (July 4, 10 a. m.) was a joint session with the American association of law libraries. It opened with an instructive paper by Charles C. Soule of Boston on "Foreign law in state libraries." The subject of the reporting of the progress of bills, introduced in all the state legislatures, by the Law reporting company, which was undertaken the past year through the efforts of the association's committee on legislative reference, was then brought before the meeting. The very animated discussion which resulted filled the remainder of the session. It brought out the good and the weak points of the scheme, as shown by a year's trial, and went far to clarify opinion concerning the plan and to pave the way for modifications and improvements which should assure the success of this, the most important undertaking ever

entered upon by state and legislative reference libraries.

The third and final session (July 5, 2:30 p. m.) opened with a paper on "Library efficiency under new conditions" by Mr Brigham of Rhode Island. This was a very clear presentation of present conditions in library work, of the demands for new activities, and of the attendant necessity of restricting some activities now, formerly held highly important. Next came a very scholarly paper on the "Making of Pennsylvania libraries" by Helen A. Price in which she set forth the topographical, historical and social conditions on which the library commission must build up a system of public libraries in the state. Mr Brigham of Iowa then read his paper on "Coördination of state supported libraries. How far should it go?" In this the present organization in Iowa was outlined and the various criticisms and the plans for reorganization were summarized. The discussion brought forth many comparisons of the systems of various states.

A few matters of business closed the session. Miss Hasse was made an honorary member of the association in recognition of her invaluable work on the bibliography of state publications. The officers for the coming year were then chosen as follows: President, D. C. Brown of Indiana; first vice-president, C. F. D. Belden of Massachusetts; second vice-president, Mrs Jessie P. Webber of Illinois; secretary-treasurer, Asa C. Tilton of Wisconsin.

Thirteen states were represented at the convention, in some cases by several persons. In addition, many members of the Law libraries association and of the A. L. A. attended, so that the sessions were full and the discussions broad, lively and suggestive.

A. C. TILTON, Sec.

Self-distrust is the cause of most of our failures. In the assurance of strength there is strength, and they are the weakest, however strong, who have no faith in themselves or their powers.—Bovee.

League of Library Commissions Meeting at Mackinac Island

There were 15 of the state library commissions represented at the meeting of the League of library commissions at Mackinac Island July 1-2. Miss Baldwin, chairman of the Publication committee, gave a comprehensive report of the work for 1909-1910. Miss Baldwin urged at the close that the commissions should notify the chairman of the committee whenever they proposed to print lists of books, bibliographies or reading lists of any kind, or articles of general interest either in bulletin or separate form. The committee proposes to keep this information on file for the benefit of all commissions, who could by this means ascertain whether material on any subject was already in print or preparation.

Mr Hadley of the committee on libraries for Federal prisons reported on his work and the committee was continued with the power to add three members to aid in its investigation of conditions in these libraries.

Margaret W. Brown, Iowa, chairman of the committee on uniform traveling library statistics, presented the report of the work of the committee, and it was voted to accept the recommendations of the committee, to adopt the blank forms which the committee presented as its final report, as a basis for the league statistics in the Year Book.

M. S. Dudgeon, Alice L. Tyler and Mrs Belle Holcomb Johnson were appointed the committee on revision of the constitution.

A committee to consider the matter of securing second-class mail rates for commission bulletins was appointed.

The paper on "The farmer, his book and heart," by Frances Hobart, Vermont, was presented, and discussion by Mr Dudgeon of Wisconsin and Miss Allin of Illinois.

The traveling libraries through granges, schools, agricultural societies, etc., was presented by Miss Templeton of Nebraska, with the discussion led by

Mr Bliss of Pennsylvania and Miss Stearns of Wisconsin.

Coöperation on the part of the commissions with public libraries in rural district work was presented by Mr Milam of Indiana, and the discussion led by Miss Tyler of Iowa and Miss Downey of Ohio.

The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, Clara F. Baldwin, Minnesota; first vice-president, Cornelia Marvin, Oregon; second vice-president, H. C. Wellman, Massachusetts. Publication committee: R. P. Bliss, chairman; Elizabeth Wales, Missouri; M. S. Dudgeon, Wisconsin.

American Library Institute

Mackinac Island meeting

Agreeably to the provision of its constitution, which calls for holding two meetings of the institute annually, the second of 1910 meetings thereof was held at Mackinac Island, Michigan, at the time of the A. L. A. conference, June 30 and July 4. Half of the 58 elected fellows of the institute were in attendance there, and others of the A. L. A. council having seats *ex-officio*. President Bostwick was in the chair at both sessions.

A committee had arranged an effective sequence of topics and leaders to speak on each, although owing to mishaps in transportation the printed programs did not arrive in time for use, while other demands upon some of the expected participants interfered with both their attendance and the holding of an attempted adjourned session.

At the first session, Undignified methods in library advertising were discussed by Henry M. Utley of Detroit. John C. Dana of Newark spoke upon Misdirection of much library effort in reference work, and this was continued at the second session with discussion of Questions in reference work by Mr Dana and others. Faults of small library buildings were orally presented by Mr Dana, together with the reading of a table of comparative data respecting dimensions, costs per square foot of floor space,

etc., in sundry recent and representative buildings.

Mr Dana, in his talk, emphasized several points. Among other things, he advised librarians to discriminate between inquiries. Not to be too keen in finding trivial material even of considerable importance. Teach the use of books as far as practicable to the inquirers. This is more important than the thing sought. Librarians are too much given to writing for information to others. This is an admirable thing up to a certain point, beyond that it is unpraiseworthy. Librarians should extend into individuals occasionally.

In relation to the buildings, Mr Dana was rather severe on the fashion of the building of one story and a high basement. Nearly always unsanitary. He recommended the dwelling-house type, modified. On a comparative basis of 20 cents a cubic foot for plain building there will be 50 per cent more floor space than can be obtained in a classic building of the Greek temple type at 30 cents. He highly commended Miss Marvin's book on small library buildings. The body of librarians ought to express decided views of library building regardless of the personal equation. He pointed out that the roof and the basement are the main cost in library buildings. He also questioned the importance of making library buildings of so permanent a character.

Because of lack of time, and opportunity for another session, other subjects intended to be considered at this meeting were put over; among them a paper by Dr Arthur E. Bostwick of St Louis, How may young men be induced to take up library work?

The Bibliographical Society of America

Two sessions of the society were held during the Mackinac conference of the A. L. A. The second of these sessions was devoted to a discussion of the present status of the bibliography of modern languages and literatures, which widened out to cover the whole field of current

bibliography and resulted in the appointment of a committee, consisting of J. Christian Bay, Axel G. S. Josephson and Prof. Clark S. Northrup, for the purpose of investigating the conditions of current bibliography, especially the questions of duplication and waste of effort. The committee will begin its investigations in the field of modern philology, and is authorized to add other members to the present three, as the work progresses. The society has thus far held 12 semi-annual meetings, six annual in connection with the A. L. A., the others usually in connection with the annual meetings of the American Historical Association. It has issued four volumes of its *Papers* and publishes a *Bulletin*, containing minutes of its proceedings, notes and news and a record of current American bibliographies. The last (double) number of the *Bulletin* contained a classified list of the contents in the four volumes of its *Papers*. W. Dawson Johnston is president for the current year, A. G. S. Josephson is secretary and C. B. Roden, treasurer. The membership fee is \$3, which entitles members to receive the publications. Back volumes of the *Papers* are sold only to members and at the price of \$2 for each part.

Library Meetings

Joint library meeting

The annual meetings of the Iowa library association and the Illinois library association, respectively, will be held in Davenport and Rock Island, beginning Tuesday afternoon, October 11, and continuing through October 13. Several joint sessions have been arranged, making it possible to provide a stronger program. The two places are connected by street cars, a distance covered in about 15 or 20 minutes.

The annual meeting of the Indiana library association will be held at South Bend, Ind., October 19-21. Although this is not a tri-state meeting, librarians from Michigan and Illinois will be most cordially welcomed at the meeting. For further

information address Orpha M. Peters, Public library, Gary, Ind.

The annual meeting of the Ohio library association will be held in the auditorium of the Public library in Columbus October 10-13. Extensive plans have been made by the executive committee for a pleasant and profitable meeting.

Wisconsin—The regular meeting of the Milwaukee library club was held September 12. Secretary Hadley of the A. L. A. was present and gave an address on the history of that association. S. A. McKillop of the South Side branch of the Milwaukee public library pointed out the value of attending the A. L. A. Miss Smith of the Milwaukee public library told of her experiences at her first meeting. Miss Stearns of the Free library commission spoke on some phases of the A. L. A., and W. I. Wight, librarian of the Milwaukee law library, gave a brief history of that institution. The club starts the second year of its existence with an active membership of 50 librarians and every indication of a very successful year. D. G. Ovitz, Sec'y.

A Traveling Librarian in Some English Libraries

It may be of interest to some to read a few impressions of one who recently had an opportunity to visit a few public libraries in England. There was no thought of investigating or criticising and these lines relate the impressions gained in friendly visits, prompted merely by professional interest in the libraries of the various places in which the traveler happened to be at the time.

The Public library of Exeter, while somewhat limited in space for a city of its size and opportunity, is quite attractively arranged and shows a record of effective work. It has open access to the books which are arranged by the D. C., uses bulletin board notices quite extensively, gives the freest opportunity for reference work commensurate with its

obligations to all, seemingly has every interest in the community in mind in providing library service, and in many ways is reaching the attention and support of Exeter. The admirable conduct of affairs in connection with the library meeting spoke volumes of the efficiency of the librarian and his courteous staff. Exeter municipality owes it to the city to provide more adequate facilities for the good work of its public library.

A visit to Manchester revealed a curious contrast along library lines. Could one imagine, much less point out, a more perfect setting for the contents of a remarkable library than the Rylands building? And where is there more congestion in ill-suited rooms for a working reference library than is to be found in the Public library central building?

To tell of the Rylands library in anything like an adequate way would take much more space than is at hand and a power of description beyond that possessed by the writer. A beautiful building, the interior of which is beautifully designed in an ecclesiastic style of architecture, ornamented with delicate stone carving, with fluted columns, stained glass windows, dim cathedral aisles, cozy alcoves for students and everything in perfect keeping throughout, the contents of this library is unique in many ways. The largest collection of Caxtons, over 50 pieces, of which 35 are the first copies; a fair-sized room filled with books, none of a later period than the fifteenth century, over half of them before the fourteenth century; a collection, the most complete of its kind, showing the evolution of book-making from the time of the brick records of the Assyrians and the tablets of Nebuchadnezzar; rare editions of the classics of all nations; illuminated manuscripts in precious bindings of gold, carved ivory and precious stones, it is preëminently the classical scholars' library to which they come or send for information, from a single copy extant in several instances, from every quarter of the globe. Personal copies of books belonging to great personages of various periods, each annotated by its owner,

such as the "Book of Hours" of Mary Queen of Scots, the Bible of John Wiciffe and that of Elizabeth Fry and many other rare and beautiful things of the book world too numerous to mention are among the many precious possessions of this truly wonderful institution. A leading periodical from most of the capitals of the world is to be found in the department devoted to them. While the character of the library is primarily ecclesiastic, there are fine historical collections and the best of general literature here also. The library and its contents are the gift of Mrs Rylands of Manchester as a memorial to her deceased husband, in which 50,000,000 pounds sterling is invested.

The spirit of peace and joy seemed to hover over the priceless treasures as they were shown to a company of appreciative visitors from Yorkshire interested in books, by the librarian, Mr Guppy, and his assistant, Mr Peacock. Sir William Bailey, a life-governor of the library and widely known for his keen and helpful interest in everything pertaining to literature, acted as host for the company at a tea after the conclusion of the visit to the library.

A visit to the Public library of Manchester set forth strongly the need for better and more commodious quarters than the reference department occupies at present. It is remarkable that a city as progressive as Manchester in so many directions should have delayed so long in providing adequate facilities for doing the work in this direction. To be sure, plans are under way for a new building, but it is not expected that they will be realized for three years yet, and in the meantime the present reference library in the heart of the city is filled to overflowing, literally, as many thousands of the reference books have been sent out of the main building to the branches for lack of room. Manchester public library is historically the first of its kind. Its early years are connected with the work of Edwards, the father of the free public library. Its scope and field are full of opportunity which its librarian, Mr Sutton,

and the board of directors are trying hard to meet, but rooms packed full of books to the ceiling 15 or 16 feet high, look discouraging. However, a source of satisfaction is found in the large number of branch libraries which are meeting the wants of the districts where they are located and educating a public for the future that will provide more adequately for the library needs of their day. In the meantime, one can but wish that the spirit of the founder of the Rylands library might provide for the everyday people what has been made possible for the scholar.

The work of the Liverpool public library has been well and favorably known to American librarians for many years, at least since the well-remembered visit of the late librarian, Peter Cowell, to the United States in 1893. As travelers always have a little time to spare at Liverpool, the librarians have improved the time usually by visiting the public library. A recent visit to that institution confirms the reputation of the institution as being alive and up to date in every direction. The main library, which is a reference library with a recently opened circulating department, is housed in a group of municipal buildings. The others contain the notable municipal art collection and the municipal museum, both of which are active factors in the educational life of the community. Liverpool is developing a system of branch libraries through which it is meeting the varied wants of its population scattered over a considerable area. Time allowed a visit to only two of these branches, both in their own buildings, one a recent gift from Andrew Carnegie.

In the technical collection in the main library is a wonderful collection of books illustrating the development of the art of bookbinding from the earliest time down to the present, in its finest form. There is also a splendid collection of books, engravings, original drawings and plates of designs which are constantly used by the technical night schools supported by the municipality. In two notable instances

recently, the students of these schools, through help received from the collection of designs in the library, have attained rank and prominence in their work. Librarian Shaw has been in charge for something less than a year, succeeding the late Mr Cowell as librarian, but his energy and far-reaching vision of the place of the library as a municipal institution have already produced marked effect in the extension of the work of the Liverpool public library.

Still another traveler writes:

"I visited the libraries at Hampstead and Sunderland and was delighted with them. The library at Hampstead is like an American public library of the first class, barring the indicator and closed access in the main library. Their children's room was fine, an attractive room and surroundings, with a plentiful supply of books to which there is open access. The Sunderland library is most attractive. In that smoky city it is clean, the walls are in good colors. They have the appliances necessary, and the three branches are ideal. These branches are active workers, well planned, and when I say that their condition is Cleveland on a small scale, it will not be necessary to go into detail. I was delighted also with the result of an inquiry for information at St Martin's library in London. The most courteous attention was given and the service was so prompt as to be surprising even to one from the rushing Wabash."

One may question without intending criticism, if library work in England would not gain more by the adoption of methods of work already established and proven good, rather than by strong minds working out for themselves, methods for doing exactly the same work. It would leave more time for actual book distribution and development of greater use of the material even though some fault might be found with the machinery. The chief value of the latter lies in the results obtained in its use.

Library Schools**Carnegie library, Atlanta**

The Library training school began its sixth year September 23, with an enrollment of 10 students.

Notes of graduates

Caroline Gregg, '10, was married in Marietta, Ga., October 3, to Robert McCulloch of Montana.

Lieze Holmes, '09, has been acting as substitute in the Carnegie library of Atlanta during the summer months.

Alberta Malone, '08, has resigned her position as librarian of the Woman's college library, Meridian, Miss., and has been appointed librarian of the library of Furman university, Greenville, S. C.

Ethel Pitcher, '10, has been appointed librarian of the Woman's college library, Meridian, Miss.

Frances Pickett, '10, has been appointed librarian of the Judson college library, Marion, Ala.

Anne Murrill, '10, has been appointed librarian of the Agricultural library, Virginia polytechnic institute, Blacksburg, Va.

Gertrude Olmsted, '10, has been appointed assistant in the Jackson Square branch of the New York public library.

Susan Simonton, '07, has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Barnesville, Ga.

Lucy Yancey, '10, has been appointed librarian of the Agricultural library of the University of Georgia, Athens, Ga.

JULIA T. RANKIN, Director.

Carnegie library of Pittsburgh

The Training school for children's librarians closed its ninth year on August 16. Recent appointments of its students are as follows:

Carrie M. Akin, librarian of Public library, Winnetka, Ill.

Louise Franklin Bache, children's librarian, Brooklyn public library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mary Brinsmade, children's librarian, Brooklyn public library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Jasmine Britton, head of children's department, Public library, Spokane, Wash.

Bertha Frances Burtch, librarian, North Bennett street Industrial school, Boston, Mass.

Ethel Kellow, librarian, Sarah Sargent Paine memorial library, Painesdale, Mich.

Margaret Edith Kelly, children's librarian, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Fannie Kerr, head of children's department, Public library, Kalamazoo, Mich.

Jean McLeod, children's librarian, Chicago public library, Chicago, Ill.

Dorothy Rowe, children's librarian, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Grace E. Shepperson, children's librarian, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Anna May Sleaze, children's librarian, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Edna Sophia Smith, children's librarian, Brooklyn public library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Grace M. Starkey, children's librarian, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dorothea Thomas, children's librarian, Brooklyn public library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Marie Elizabeth Wallace, children's librarian, Brooklyn public library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Alumni notes

Blanche A. L. Lowe, Pratt institute library school, 1905-1906; special student, Training school for children's librarians, 1907-1908, married Herbert S. Hirshberg on June 16, 1910.

Tecca Niswanger, class of 1911, married James R. Miller, June 27, 1910.

Jeannette M. Steenberg, class of 1909, married Dr Einar Cohn, Aug. 17, 1910. Mrs Cohn still retains her position of assistant in the State library commission in Denmark.

Drexel institute

Madge E. Heacock, '07, has resigned her position as cataloger in the library of the American Philosophical society, Philadelphia, Pa.

Graduates of the school have been appointed to the following positions:

Edith J. Chamberlain, '03, cataloger, Public library, Lansing, Mich.

Mary P. Farr, '94, organizer, Missouri library commission.

Marian D. Mosher, '10, cataloger, University of Rochester library, Rochester, N. Y.

Katherine B. Rogers, '10, organizer, Shedd-Porter Memorial library, Alstead, N. H.

Helen D. Subers, '01, organizer, Pennsylvania state library commission.

Mabel C. True, '05, cataloger, State library, Lansing, Mich.

Irma A. Watts, '06, chief cataloger, Pennsylvania legislative reference bureau, Harrisburg, Pa.

Ida L. Wolf, '10, assistant, order department, Ohio State university library, Columbus, Ohio.

Alice R. Eaton, '07, assistant, Public library, Utica, N. Y.

Jeanne Griffin, '09, assistant, Public library, Duluth, Minn.

Mrs Jean B. Hoskins, '10, assistant, Public library, Cleveland, Ohio.

Sarah L. Howell, '10, assistant, Library of the American society of civil engineers, New York city.

Grace J. McIntosh, '10, assistant librarian, Library association, Montgomery, Ala.

Miltanna Rowe, '10, librarian, State Normal school library, Spearfish, S. D.

Mrs Elizabeth M. Short, '10, reference assistant, Library of the American society of civil engineers, New York city.

Edna S. Stewart, '10, assistant in children's department, Public library, Brooklyn, N. Y. JULIA A. HOPKINS.

New York state library

The New York State library school will offer a special course in law library work and work in legislative reference libraries. The course will include special conferences with the law and legislative reference librarians of the New York State library and extended practice in the work of their sections of the library. Such technical subjects from the courses of the regular school will be required as are necessary for the administration of these two types of special libraries. College or law school graduation will be required for admission and only applicants with adequate background of education and experience will be accepted. No applicants will be accepted for less than a school year. The special work will also be made elective for seniors in the regular school. Further details may be had by addressing the registrar of the school.

Several changes will be made in the instructional force for 1910-11. Katherine Dame will teach the cataloging, subject headings, shelf work and accession work

formerly taught by Miss Bacon. The junior classification will be in charge of Jean Hawkins, head classifier of the New York State library. C. P. P. Vitz, director's assistant of the New York State library, will conduct the short courses in order work and loan work. On account of the increasing demands of the library upon his time, Mr Biscoe will relinquish the course in National bibliography. This course will be taken by Mr Walter, who will also assume general charge of the Library seminar.

Miss Dame, who has been appointed instructor to succeed Miss Bacon, is a graduate of Boston university and of the Pratt Institute library school, and has done graduate work at Bryn Mawr. Since 1900, Miss Dame has been connected with the Cornell university library as chief cataloger and as assistant librarian in charge of the catalog. In addition to her experience as a cataloger she was for several years a teacher and has also given instruction in cataloging to the student assistants in the Cornell library.

F. K. WALTER.

Pratt institute

The practical work preliminary to that of the class-room began this year on Thursday, September 15. Lectures begin on October 3, Founder's day.

There will be no changes in the faculty the coming year, so far as known, except the withdrawal of Miss Lord from the lecture course on Book-buying.

The registration represents 11 states and three foreign countries, nine colleges and 21 libraries, as 21 have had experience in libraries. Ten others are graduates of high schools, and the remainder have been educated in private schools and seminaries, at home and abroad.

Three students from Sweden and Norway, arriving early, began their practice a week in advance of the class so as to gain time to attend the State association meeting at Lake George.

The recent fire at Pratt institute affected only the School of fine arts and

has not delayed the work of the Library school.

The curriculum of the first term shows no change worth mentioning. Miss Stearns of Wisconsin will inaugurate the lecture course by visiting lecturers on October 7, with her talks on "Some western phases of library work," and on "Traveling libraries," giving a supplementary and complimentary address entitled "Why a librarian?"

The school will attend the October meeting of the Long Island library club, at which a report will be made of the state meeting and a paper will be presented on "The institutions and societies with which the libraries of Brooklyn might coöperate."

A periodical rack has been added to the equipment of the class-room, in which will be kept the various library periodicals for a week or so after their arrival, as well as the current A. L. A. and commission publications.

Katharine Dame, '00, has been appointed instructor in cataloging in the New York state library school. Miss Dame has been head cataloger at Cornell university library for several years.

Elizabeth Howard, '94, has resigned her position as librarian of the United engineering societies, New York, having finished the organization of the United libraries.

Alexandrine La Tourette, '08, resigned the librarianship of Stevens Point (Wis.) normal school in June and has been abroad during the summer.

Irene Hackett, '97, has been appointed librarian of the New Castle (Pa.) public library.

Anne V. C. Taggart, '10, has been engaged as librarian of the Annie Halen-bake Ross library of Lock Haven, Pa.

Florence J. Higley, '10, has been appointed librarian of the American Book Company, New York city.

Susan Mollson, '10, has been engaged as assistant in the library of the Children's museum, Brooklyn.

Sloan D. Watkins, '05, has resigned the

librarianship of the West Virginia university for reasons of health.

MARY W. PLUMMER, Director.

Western Reserve university

On Friday afternoon, June 10, the class of '10 served a farewell afternoon tea to the faculty and took that occasion to present as their class gift to the school the necessary pieces to complete a tea service, the nucleus of which was given by the class of '09. Not only is this gift a very useful factor in furthering the social life of the school, but as an expression of the interest of the class in the school is especially appreciated. On Monday, June 13, the faculty entertained the class of '10 and the graduates at a luncheon given in the rooms of the school. About 65 were present, and among them some graduates who had not visited the school since leaving it as students. After the luncheon, Miss Whittlesey introduced the president, the dean, Miss Steele, '09, for the alumni, and Miss Calkins, president of '10, for the class, and delightfully informal speeches were made by them. The class were given their certificates of graduation at the general university commencement exercises held on Friday morning, June 16. The speaker was the Hon. Andrew Draper, commissioner of education of New York.

At the A. L. A. meeting at Mackinac the school was well represented by 11 graduates and several members of the faculty. On Monday, July 4, a Reserve dinner was given, the guests of honor being J. I. Wyer, jr., Miss Ahern and Miss Haines. Reserve colors of red and white were in evidence in the table decorations and the badges worn by the guests. After the dinner the Alumni association held its annual business meeting.

Alumni notes

Helen Stearns, '05, has returned to her work in the legislative department of the Wisconsin library commission at Madison.

Mabel Hines, '09, who has been an assistant in the Miles Park branch of the Cleveland public library, has been pro-

moted to the position of first assistant in the Broadway branch.

Jennie Roberts, '06, who has been assistant cataloger at the state university of Iowa, has been promoted to the position of head cataloger in that same library.

Edith Eastman, '07, who has been librarian of the Glenville branch of the Cleveland public library, has resigned her position to become assistant librarian of the Wesleyan University library at Middletown, Conn.

Effie M. Marshall, '08, has resigned her position of assistant in the Cleveland public library and was married on August 4 to Fred Menke of Cleveland.

Zana Kate Miller, '05, who, for the past two years because of ill health has not been in regular work, is much better and has resumed work with the Wisconsin Free library commission at Madison.

Mildred Parsons, '07, will spend the winter with friends in Los Angeles, Cal.

Elsie McPherson, '09, because of illness in the family, has resigned her position of assistant in the Cleveland public library and returned to her home in Irving Park, Ill.

Summer schools

The Columbia university summer school, July 6-August 17, offered three courses in library economy—1) Bibliography, 2) Book selection and book buying, 3) Cataloging and classification.

In the bibliography course lectures were given by Miss Tracey of the Reform club library and Miss Keller of the Columbia university library. Lectures on the bibliography of their various subjects were given by the professors of the various departments of the university—Education, Prof. Monroe; History, Prof. Shotwell; English literature, Prof. Trent; Literature of the nineteenth century, Prof. Erskine; Philosophy, Dr. Brown.

Additional lectures were given by librarians in New York and vicinity on the various kinds of libraries represented. The subject of book selection and book buying was covered by the experts in

these various lines in the libraries of New York and several from the book trades.

Cataloging and classification were given by Miss Keller and Miss Kelloff of the Columbia university library.

Visits were made to the Newark public library and the various libraries of New York city, together with a number of the publishing houses. The class comprised 13 students from various classes of libraries.

Chautauqua

The tenth annual session of the Chautauqua library school was held July 9-August 20 under direction of Melvil Dewey, with Mary E. Downey as resident director. Special lectures were given by Mr. Dewey on the Qualifications of a librarian, Efficiency, Methods, Time-savers, Classification; Dr. Eliza M. Mosher, Health considerations of the library staff; Mrs. A. F. Broomhall of Ohio, The library and the club woman; Mrs. L. S. Bainbridge, The influence of books in tenement work; Prof. A. S. Root, German libraries, Reference work, Origin of printing; Frank Chapin Bray, The Chautauqua reading course.

The course of study included 98 lectures on library economy followed by practice work, carefully revised. The Chautauqua and Paterson libraries and books from the New York and Ohio State traveling libraries were used for reference and practical work.

The registration was the largest in the history of the school and included 43 students representing libraries of 14 states. There were many visiting librarians, trustees and others interested in library work who attended special lectures and consulted in regard to library matters. Relaxation was supplied by the unsurpassed attractions which Chautauqua affords every season and by occasional social festivities.

Indiana

The ninth summer school for librarians conducted by the Indiana library commission was held at Earlham college,

Richmond, July 22-August 2, under the direction of Carl H. Milam, secretary of the commission. Other instructors were Florence R. Curtis, University of Illinois library school; Carrie E. Scott, organizer of the Indiana library commission, and William M. Hepburn, librarian, Purdue university. There was also a large corps of visiting lecturers representing various phases of library interests. A total of 91 lectures were given during the course. The most interesting exercise was the problem assigned in book selection, consisting in the preparation of a buying list of \$100 worth of books for a small library, no title to be included of a book published before 1906. The problem was outlined during the first week and was not due until the end of the course. Children's books were not included in this list, as a \$50 list of juvenile books was prepared separately.

A most interesting and helpful visit was made to Dayton. Miss Doren, the acting librarian, with members of her staff, acted as hosts of the occasion when a visit was made to the National Cash Register Works and the Malleable Iron Works shops, where they saw some examples of Dayton's well-known factory club libraries. The afternoon was spent at the public library, where all departments were visited and explained in a most interesting and helpful manner.

The class consisted of 19 regular and one special student, all but two of whom were from Indiana libraries. Two were from high school libraries, three from college libraries and the others from public libraries.

Maine

The summer library class conducted by the Maine library commission contained 15 students with various other persons attending the lectures at different times. Mrs Frances Rathbone Coe was principal instructor. Classes were held in the library of the University of Maine in Orono under most satisfactory and helpful conditions. While the lessons were planned to be helpful to the librarians composing the classes, the elemental prin-

ciples of all records in a library were taken up and three lessons a week were devoted to cataloging, classification and reference work. The up-to-date methods and policy of the University library of 49,000 v. made it especially helpful for practice work for the school.

Besides the regular class work, lectures were given by Librarian Jones of the University library, Drew B. Hall of Fairhaven and Mrs Kate C. Estabrooke, president of the Maine library commission. The course was free to any library worker in the state. Round tables on various methods and processes were held from time to time, under direction of Mrs Coe, and were exceedingly interesting to every one present. The session was very helpful professionally and the social side of the study in Orono was most delightful.

The University of Illinois has issued a revised and enlarged handbook of the library. Librarian Drury reports that the handbook has helped a great deal in the handling of the thousand new students who come to the university each year, enabling them to make use of the library without asking so many questions of the assistants. The University of Missouri has issued a similar handbook.

In a recent edition of one of the leading daily papers of Dayton, Ohio, a page is devoted to a "Library symposium." Historical and statistical material is given by the library authorities, with articles upon "Books for business men and shop men," "Work with children," and various other library topics. The library interests are also presented in the August publication of the Dayton chamber of commerce, giving a most excellent article comparing the activities of the library with 16 other cities. This material was prepared by Miss Doren, formerly librarian, and during the past six months acting librarian while the librarian was traveling in Europe.

News from the Field

East

Andrew Carnegie has promised to build three branch library buildings in Worcester, Mass.

Edward W. Hall, librarian emeritus of Colby college, Waterville, Me., died September 8. He was connected with Colby college for 48 years.

Frank Greene Bates, formerly state librarian of Rhode Island and later professor in the University of Kansas, has been made librarian of the Rhode Island historical society.

Elizabeth R. Frost, New York, '03-4, who has been acting as librarian of the Southbridge (Mass.) public library during the summer months, began work September 1 as assistant in the Silas Bronson library at Waterbury, Conn.

Harriet H. Stanley, New York, '95, since 1899 school reference librarian of the Brookline (Mass.) public library, has resigned this position to become assistant in the library of the United States department of agriculture at Washington.

Harold T. Dougherty, for the past three years librarian of the Waltham (Mass.) public library, has been appointed librarian of the Deborah Cook Sayles public library, Pawtucket, R. I. Mr. Dougherty succeeds Mrs Minerva Sanders, who becomes librarian emeritus after a service of over 30 years.

A new public library building was dedicated August 25 at Alstead, N. H. The library will be termed the Shedd-Porter Memorial library and was presented to the towns of Alstead and Langdon, N. H., with complete furnishings and several thousand books by John G. Shedd and his wife of Chicago, as a memorial to their respective parents.

A collection of the works of Alexander Pope, consisting of some 500 v. of books and pamphlets, has been pre-

sented to Harvard University library by an anonymous donor. This gift makes the Pope collection in the library unequaled in America. The collection was brought together by Marshall C. Lefferts, who spent many years in securing every early edition of Pope it was possible to obtain. The monetary value is hard to estimate, but amounts to considerable. While some editions not in the Lefferts collection are in the British Museum library, the contrary is equally true.

James L. Whitney for more than 40 years connected with Boston public library, and from 1899 to 1903 its librarian, died from a paralytic stroke on September 25.

Mr. Whitney was identified with much of the library development of New England and last fall he received a complimentary banquet from many prominent Bostonians. He edited "The Ticknor catalogue of Spanish literature" for the library and since his retirement as chief librarian, had served as chief of the department of documents and statistics and of the department of manuscripts. He was a man universally liked and respected.

The annual report of the Silas Bronson library of Waterbury, Conn., records an addition for the year of 6316 v., making a total of 81,385; a total circulation of 211,805, of which 43,578 v. was through the schools; fiction formed about 70 per cent of the circulation. There was a decrease of 15,103 novels in the circulation of the year, and an increase of 8209 in the issue of non-fiction. The library has a collection of books in six different languages. Libraries are deposited in 18 school houses. The increase of interest in the study of public questions has made it necessary to place an entire room at the service of those looking up questions of public interest.

Central Atlantic

Edward D. Greenman, New York, '07, has been transferred from the copyright office of the Library of Congress to the United States Bureau of Education, where he will have charge of the classification division.

D. Ashley Hooker, New York, '06-7, has resigned his position as librarian for the H. H. Franklin Manufacturing Company of Syracuse, and is now engaged in cataloging the library of the United States Military academy at West Point.

Julia C. Knowlton, B. L. S., New York, '06, has resigned her position as assistant in Syracuse university library and instructor in the University library school to become assistant in the reference department of the Newark (N. J.) public library.

Lois A. Reed has been made assistant librarian of the University of Rochester. Miss Reed has been connected with the University of Illinois library school for several years and has the degree of B. L. S. from the State library school of New York.

Frances A. Wood, for 44 years librarian of Vassar college, has been succeeded by Amy L. Reed, class of '92. The nine classes that held reunions at the last commencement pledged \$12,500 to be known as the Frances A. Wood fund to be used for library purposes.

The corner-stone of the twelfth branch library building of Philadelphia was laid August 10. The lot on which the building will stand was presented to the city by 150 residents of the neighborhood. It is hoped the building will be ready for public use early in 1911.

At the laying of the corner-stone addresses were made by the president of the board of trustees, Henry R. Edmunds, Dr G. W. Stewart, chairman of the Oak Lane library association, E. Clarence Miller, president of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, State-librarian Montgomery and Li-

brarian John Thomson of the Philadelphia free library.

At its last commencement, the University of Rochester conferred the degree of Litt. D. on E. W. Mundy, librarian of the Public library of Syracuse. Dr Mundy is an alumnus of the university and received the degree of Doctor of Letters from the Rochester university some years ago, and the later degree was conferred on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the graduation of his class.

When Dr Mundy took charge of the Public library of Syracuse in 1880, it contained 14,323 v., with a circulation of about 40,000. The library was under the control of the department of education, which spent about \$2000 a year for library purposes. At present the library has its own charter, has an annual income of about \$40,000, numbers 82,503 v. and circulated 258,141 v. last year. For this increase Dr Mundy is chiefly responsible and a number of library trustees, the library staff and Syracuse citizens generally applaud the action of the University of Rochester in his case as an honor fairly won.

The annual report of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh for 1909 records a circulation of 1,162,309 v., an increase of 16.3 per cent over that of 1908. Estimating the population of the city as 570,000, the circulation per capita during the year was 2.04 v. The total number of books in the library, 326,321 v., and 21,226 pamphlets. The chief event of the year was the opening of the South Side branch. The lending of books began here on Feb. 1, 1909, and 164,050 v. were circulated during the year, of which 13,993 were foreign. The nationalities most heavily represented were Polish, with a circulation of 7334, and German, with a circulation of 6132. On May 12 the new technology room was opened to the public. The seating capacity of the room is 200, and there is open shelf space for 14,000 v. The technology department now contains 31,584 v., 330 technical

journals, and 2606 trade catalogs. From May 12 to the end of the year, the number of readers was 11,709 and the number of books brought to the room for their use was 16,985.

During the year the rules in regard to lending books were modified. Practically any desired number of works of non-fiction and two works of fiction may now be borrowed at the same time, and the non-fiction kept for a period of four weeks. The chief result has been a feeling of greater freedom on the part of patrons, as the number of books taken at one time by each borrower has increased only slightly.

Central

Grace A. Stevens has taken charge of the Public library at Wausau, Wis.

John S. Cleavenger (Ill. '10) has been appointed librarian of the Public library at Jackson, Mich.

Magdalen Evans, New York, '09-0, was married Tuesday, September 6, to Chancery Judy at Kankakee, Ill.

Helen Harwood of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, former librarian of Tipton, Iowa, was married September 10 to Sherman Yates of Tipton.

Herbert S. Hirschberg, technical librarian of the Cleveland public library, was married June 16 to Blanche Lowe at Meadville, Pa.

Carrie Sheldon, for five years librarian of the Carnegie library of Ottawa, Kan., resigned her position and was succeeded October 1 by Alice Graham.

Caroline Akin of Evansville, Ind., has been appointed librarian of the Public library at Winnetka, Ill. The library was opened in August in its new building.

Arthur E. Bostwick, librarian of the St Louis public library, has been appointed a member of the State library commission of Missouri, to succeed P. B. Wright resigned.

Harriet Cooper, librarian of the Public library of Tuscola, Ill., re-

signed her position and was married to Walter Arnold of the state of Washington in September.

Artena Chapin, for eight years librarian of the Public library at Muncie, Ind., has resigned her position to become librarian of the A. K. Smiley library of Redlands, Cal., November 1.

Mary A. Smith, for several years city librarian at Eau Claire, Wis., has been appointed librarian of the Public library at Madison, Wis., to succeed George B. Averill, jr., resigned.

Leora E. Mabbett has resigned her position at Edgerton, Wis., to join the library staff of the University of Minnesota library. Mrs George Farman of Edgerton will succeed Miss Mabbett.

Ethel McCollough, for the past three years city librarian of the Public library, Superior, Wis., has resigned her position to become an instructor in the State library school, Madison, Wis.

Charles E. Rush, recently of Michigan, now librarian of the Public library of St Joseph, Mo., was married September 7 at Voorheesville, N. Y., to Lonne Adsit, formerly of the Public library, Washington, D. C.

Ida L. Lange, formerly of the library staff of the University of Illinois and a graduate of the library school of that institution, has been appointed state organizer for the Iowa library commission.

Julia A. Robinson, who served as acting secretary of the North Dakota library commission last year, will assume a similar position with the Library commission of the state of Kentucky the coming year.

The tenth annual report of the Gilbert M. Simmons library at Kenosha reports number of volumes on the shelves, 22,863; pamphlets, 540; picture collection, 4436; circulation from the library, 79,926, through the

schools, 11,784; reading room use, 33,460; card holders, 6158; books in rental collection, 54.

Jeanette M. Drake, for some time connected with the Wisconsin library commission, has resigned her position to become librarian of the Public library at Sioux City, Iowa, succeeding Mrs Rosa M. Oberholtzer, resigned. Miss Drake began work in her new position in September.

The large and handsome directors' room of the Chicago public library has been vacated by the board and will be used for an exhibition room of various collections of books, manuscripts and illustrations. The Chicago public library is especially rich in illustrative matter in the arts and crafts. These will be placed on exhibition and invitations sent to the craftsmen of Chicago to examine them with a view to making the illustrations helpful to the handworkers of the city.

South

Dorothy Lyon, formerly connected with the Cleveland public library, has been made assistant librarian of the Public library of Little Rock, Ark.

Fanny C. Rawson, for eight years in charge of the traveling libraries for the Federation of Women's clubs in Kentucky, has been elected secretary of the new State library commission of Kentucky.

Lillian A. Sutherland, Simmons, '05-6, and special student in Training school for children's libraries in Pittsburgh, '08-9, has resigned her position in the children's department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh to become children's librarian in Rosenberg library, Galveston, Tex.

A library association to consider the interests of the school libraries has been organized in Florida under the direction of the state superintendent of public instruction, who appointed its seven members, of whom George B. Utley of the Public library of Jacksonville is chairman. It will

be the duty of the association to recommend to the board of public instruction of each county, the best books for use in the school libraries. The association will report to the Florida educational association and to the state convention of county superintendents.

The Carnegie library of Nashville exhibited a small model library at the Tennessee state fair. It was made up of 160 books for children listed by grades. Copies of the list were distributed at the exhibit and will doubtless be of assistance to those in Tennessee who do not have access to lists of good books suitable for children's reading.

The Tennessee free library commission has not as yet received an appropriation of money from the state, but its secretary, Mrs Pearl W. Kelly, is at work. She has attended several state teachers' institutes, giving lectures and conducting library classes with excellent results. The number of school libraries is constantly increasing in Tennessee, and the prospects of increased establishment of new public libraries are good.

The Kentucky library commission has issued a leaflet intended to give the people of the state full information concerning the library commission and what it wishes to do for library work in Kentucky. The prospectus sounds most encouraging and Kentucky doubtless will soon take its place in the ranks of good library states profiting by the experiences of the work in the other states where many things have been tried out and proved to be either non-essential or valuable adjuncts.

The annual report of the Louisville public library 1910 records volumes added, 15,727; total volumes in libraries, 128,325. A new building for the sixth branch is ready for furnishings.

Reference topics looked up, 24,795. Volumes issued for home use, 600,159, or 2.4 v. per capita, an increase of 6 per

cent over last year. Of these 43 per cent were circulated from main, 37 per cent from five branches and 19 per cent through 22 deposit stations and 164 classroom collections in schools. Of the entire circulation, 44 per cent were children's books.

New borrowers registered during year, 5999; cards now in force, 41,277; cost of maintenance, \$66,191.21; expenditure per capita for maintenance, 26 cents.

Closer coöperation between the libraries and the schools has greatly increased the work with the schools; several small libraries were cataloged for the schools and a course of lectures on the methods and resources of the library was given at the Normal school.

Three free art exhibits were held in the library. The use of the various lecture and class rooms increased 313 per cent over last year.

More library advertising was done than in any two previous years combined through the newspapers and the publication of weekly lists of additions, lists on special subjects, circulars of information, etc. These were issued both through regular print shops and on the multigraph.

The library celebrated the fifth anniversary of its opening to the public; conducted its first apprentice class; provided a department for the blind; opened its extensive museum, which had been stored for several years; entertained the Tri-State library conference, and saw the creation of the Kentucky library commission, which it has championed for years.

The annual report of the Public library of Houston, Tex., shows a circulation of 93,976 v. The reading room was moved upstairs and an increased capacity for 73,000 v. was obtained; number of volumes on the shelves, 28,771. The school board gives an allowance to the library for keeping up 138 sets of supplementary reading. The branch for negro children has been largely used. A movement is on foot to secure a building for the colored people, for which Mr Carnegie has offered \$15,000.

West

The Public library of Denver, Colo., will conduct a lecture course in the audience room of the new library during the coming winter.

The Parmly Billings memorial library of Billings, Mont., has received a gift of \$7500 from Frederick Billings for an addition to the present library structure for a children's department. Mr Billings expended \$22,000 in the original cost of construction of the library, which is a memorial to Parmly Billings, his brother. His gift was supplemented with cash contributions for books and other necessities from time to time.

Nina G. McKenna, for many years connected with the Public library at Helena, Mont., and for the past two years, chief librarian, resigned her position, September 1. She is succeeded by Josephine M. Haley, who has been connected with the library for the past six years.

The Carnegie library of Boise, Idaho, was open 360 days with an increase in attendance of about 4000.

The addition of over 2000 v. made a visible improvement in its resources. A large reference desk and Tungsten lights were added.

A picture collection begun during the year has been very successful, 7 portfolios and 215 mounted pictures, which are cataloged and in circulation resulting. Many of the pictures are simply cuts of portraits, places or subjects of interest, inexpensive but useful.

Book displays and bulletins have been arranged for holidays and various occasions. The plan of spreading the new books on tables for a week or more before placing them on the stacks has proved effective.

One of the women's clubs gave the Cyclopedia of American horticulture, and 25 v. of the standard poets, requesting that they be retained for reference copies. Number of card-holders, 3900; circulation, 38,666 v.; books added, 2154.

Pacific coast.

Mary C. Henthorn, head of the children's department of the Indianapolis public library, has resigned her position to take a similar one with the Public library of Portland, Ore.

A valuable addition to the library of the Stanford university has been made in the purchase of the Jarboe collection of the French revolution. This is regarded as one of the best private collections of French history in this country. Its value does not lie in its size but in the value of its contents, although there are approximately about 2500 v. and 1500 photographs. They were collected by John R. Jarboe, a prominent lawyer of San Francisco, many years ago.

The annual report to the Public library of Seattle, Wash., records an increase of 12,704 v. in stock, making a total of 114,928 v.; borrowers registered during the year 20,516, total 37,757. The circulation of books for home use for the entire library system was 579,706, or 1.87 per capita of population. The total receipts for the year were \$233,706, of which \$72,128 was a Carnegie gift.

Expenditures:

Salaries	\$ 51,888
Books and periodicals.....	13,162
Binding	6,972
Other expenses	16,753
Regular expenses	93,777
Extraordinary expenses	106,795

Total expenditures..... \$200,572

Regular expense per capita was 30 1-3 cents.

Important events during the year included the adoption of a new scheme of library service in accordance with the provision of the revised library law of the state, which became effective June 11, 1909; the appointment of new heads for the order, catalog, and circulation departments, the opening of a fifth branch library at Columbia; the practical completion of the new approaches at the central library, the letting of the contract for the completion of the three remaining floors of the book stack; and the partial construction

of three new branch library buildings at Green Lake, University and West Seattle.

The report includes an exterior view of each of the three new branch libraries.

Canada

The Public library of Toronto has been greatly enriched in its collection of Canadiana by a gift of 20,000 prints of national historical value from John Ross Robertson of that city. It would be difficult to place a value upon these, but certainly they represent years of effort on his part to preserve pictorial evidences of the early history of Canada, especially of Ontario and Toronto. Mr Robertson is the proprietor of the *Evening Telegram* of Toronto, and is known throughout Canada for his princely generosity toward the Hospital for sick children.

Foreign

The annual report of the Public library of Victoria, South Australia, records 182,622 v., exclusive of duplicates; circulation amounted to 177,996 v., a gain of over 5000. There was an increase in percentage of works read in all classes, except religion and fiction, which latter shows a decrease of nearly 4 per cent. Borrowers number 9692. Only 12 books, of small value, were missing at the annual stock-taking. Number of volumes added during the year, 1590. Number of books circulated through traveling libraries, 9617.

The annual report of the county libraries, Warrington, England, reports a stock of 52,571 v., of which 711 are gifts. Special exhibitions of books on current and selected topics have been placed in open cases and in lending counters. New subjects dealt with were: Arctic exploration; English constitution; Mark Twain; Lives of royalty; Summer sports and pastimes; Manufactures; Government—Central and local.

Number of books issued 86,333; number of card holders, 4737; 25 departments of schools were supplied with books, from which the circulation was 10,168 v.

Interesting Things in Print

The August bulletin of the Metropolitan museum of art in New York city is devoted to a description of the new library building and collections in the library. The library was removed in July to the new building, where there is capacity for 40,000 v. and storage for 50,000 photographs, with ample space for examination and study of them. The library contains at present about 20,000 v. designed for the study of the objects of art and antiquity in the galleries by members of the staff and students of its various classes. Over 200 journals and magazines in various languages are on file. The collection of the illuminated manuscripts, incunabula and the quaint and beautiful books of the seventeenth century have come to the library by gift, and it is hoped that the collection will be augmented by further contributions.

The reading room in the new building is 65 by 50 feet with 10 alcoves, some with small tables and chairs for special students. There is convenient connection between various departments and the library will have ample space to increase in both its contents and service.

The woodwork, fittings and furniture are of oak colored to harmonize with the coloring of the building. Metal stacks in the lower rooms are provided for books not in use. Special cases have been constructed for the photographs as well as tables on which they may be looked at by means of lectures at special angles.

The building was designed by McKim, Mead and White and the furniture and fittings by Library Bureau.

In the annals of the Maryland Historical society is carefully preserved an essay by the Rev. Thomas Bray of England. In this essay are

proposals to the gentry and clergy of this Kingdom, for purchasing lending libraries in all the deaneries of England, and also parochial libraries for Maryland, Virginia and other foreign plantations: that they shall be made up in such boxes, or book-presses, with shelves in 'em, and locks and doors to 'em, as will serve to preserve 'em in the carriage down, and in the place where they shall be deposited for the Publick Benefit;

and being kept in such moveable repositories they can at any time be removed to any other part of the Deanery, as by vote of the Clergy, it shall be judged most convenient to have 'em lodged in; and that, without the charge of building any room wherein to lay 'em up." The object of the proposed circulation of books was according to the text, "The promoting of all necessary and useful knowledge both human and divine, in his Majesty's dominions." Date, London, 1697.

Barring the Old English spelling and style, that quotation sounds as though it might have originated with almost any of our state library commissions.

Probably, through knowledge of this proposed movement, Scotland became imbued with the spirit of extension and through a private enterprise of one Samuel Brown in the year 1817, a similar system was instituted in one county of that country, and so rapid was its spread that in one year in this one county 10,000 books were circulated, and stations for the distribution of books were established, commensurate with the wish of the benefactor, that no individual should be more remote from one, than one and one-half miles. This was *intense extension*.

What would such a plan, under state management and finance, not do for the rural townships of Indiana?

The volume for 1908, "Writings on American history," compiled by Grace G. Griffin, has been issued. The volume is "a bibliography of books and articles on United States and Canadian history published during the year 1908, with some memoranda on other portions of America."

"Story-telling, what to tell and how to tell it" is the title of a new book issued by McClurg & Company of Chicago for the well-known story-teller, Edna Lyman, of Oak Park, Ill.

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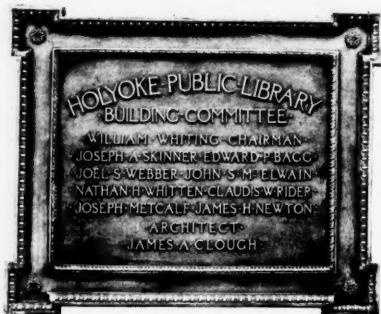
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Library Primer - - - \$1
John Cotton Dana

Notes on Bookbinding for Libra-
ries - - - - - \$1
John Cotton Dana

Public Libraries - - - \$2 a year

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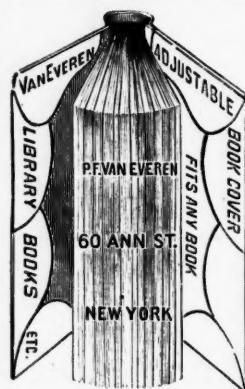
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